



Draft

Clackamas SWCD Board Meeting Minutes for September 21, 2021

PRESENT	Directors:	Jeff Becker (Chair), Roger Fantz (Treasurer), Don Guttridge (Secretary) Jim Johnson, Jesse Nelson (Vice Chair), Jan Lee, Joan Zuber
	Associate Directors:	PK Melethil, Anna Rankin
	Directors Emeritus:	
	Staff:	Nicole Ahr, Justin Cooley, Jason Faucera, Tami Guttridge, Lisa Kilders, Clair Klock, Chris Lapp (GM), Sam Leininger, Cathy McQueeney, Jenne Reische, Nathan Tucker
	Partners:	Kim Galland (Natural Resources Conservation Service)
	Guest:	Al Hrynyshyn (Upper Willamette SWCD/Soil and Water Conservation Commission)
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 4:01 p.m., September 21, 2021, via a “Zoom” meeting originating from the Clackamas SWCD office at 22055 S Beaver Creek Rd, Beaver Creek, Oregon.

Becker asked if there were changes that needed to be made to the agenda. General Manager (GM) Lapp asked to push back financial reports if needed as Staff Tucker had a conflict and would be available later in the meeting. Lapp also requested time in tab 5 for a report from Staff McQueeney regarding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training.

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

C. Director reports –

- Director Guttridge commented he was glad to see the rain.
- Director Fantz reported he had measured four inches of rain at his property. He is currently harvesting produce and getting his Christmas trees in shape. Fantz noted that Christmas trees had taken quite a bit of damage in the June heat wave.
- Director Johnson reported that the Board of Agriculture had met on September 15, 2021. The Board met with a group of farmers and neighbors regarding the proposed Portland water filtration plant. The Board of Agriculture will be creating a sub-committee to review the project. Johnson will be working with this group.
- Johnson also reported that the members of the agricultural industry reported on the impact that recent weather and natural disasters are having on their operations. The meeting was taped, and Johnson will get the link to Staff Kilders for anyone who would like to see it. It was informative, powerful, and depressing.
- Johnson also reported that the state is in the process of changing all their email address, this is being done department by department.
- Director Lee reported that the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) annual meeting will be a two-day event held virtually. The registration will be \$100 per person to cover need software upgrades to hold the event.
- Lee reported that the Oregon Global Warming Commission is working to have carbon sequestration put back in the Department of Environmental Qualities plans for reducing carbon emissions. OACD wrote the press release on this subject.
- Director Lee has been appointed by Governor Brown to be on the Water Resources Commission.
- Director Zuber noted that she had been having some electrical problems at her home and would like to see the recorded work session. Staff Faucera will make it available to her. Zuber also noted that the District website needed some updating.
- Associate Director Rankin reported that she needed some help from the District regarding a project to replace a stream blockage in the south county. Deciding on the correct mitigation and funding were the main issue. Director Becker asked that this be added to the next board meeting for further discussion.

D. Partner reports –

- Al Hrynyshyn with the Oregon Soil and Water Conservation Commission (SWCC) reported on the commission's last meeting.
 - The Oregon Dept. of Agriculture (ODA) will be focusing on agricultural channel maintenance in the Willamette Valley.
 - The Oregon Dept. of Forestry (ODF) will be working with the Farm Service Administration to get money out to landowners for restoration.

- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) have Technical Assistance Grants available.
- NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is in demand, but currently has limited funding. There will be expanded funding in 2022. They have currently funded 17 Conservation Implementation Strategies in wildfire recovery areas in Oregon.
- The Department of Environmental Quality will be monitoring for total daily maximum loads of mercury in the Willamette Valley.
- The Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District has hired three new technicians and an office administrator. They are still looking for a financial administrator. They have moved into a new office and have invited Jan Lee to come speak to their Board and staff about the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts.
- Kim Galland with NRCS reported the following
 - Furniture currently stored on the back walk will be moved next week.
 - Galland is working on the NRCS fiscal year close-out for funding.
 - The EQIP application deadline for the current round of funding is November 19, 2021.
 - NRCS employees are working to complete their Certified Planner training by January.
 - There will be more EQIP funding in 2022, however it will be limited to projects regarding soil health and climate impact.
 - Vaccine mandates have resulted in more training regarding religious objections.
- E. **Manager's report on committees** – Manager Lapp reported that the Finance Committee has been exchanging emails, and that no other committees had met.

2 – MINUTES

- A. **August 17, 2021, Regular Board Meeting minutes** – The minutes of the August 17, 2021, regular Board meeting were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Guttridge/Lee moved/seconded to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2021; regular Board meeting as presented. The vote was 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 financial reports to the Board. Total assets as of August 31, 2021, were 10.5 million, total liabilities were 6.8 million, with net assets at 3.7 million. Tucker reviewed the budget to actual numbers through August 31, 2021.

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

- B. Disbursements** – Staff Tucker presented the disbursements for the Board review. Automatic Clearing House payments totaled \$15,884.92. Checks were numbered from 100743 to 100770 with no breaks or voids in the sequence. Checks totaled \$68,395.46 with \$25,676.04 from the conservation fund. Tucker noted four checks had to be reissued, three due to a computer problem, and one check due to being made out to an incorrect vendor.

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

4 – OTHER FINANCIALS

- A. Approval for Board Members to attend the Oregon Association of Conservation District (OACD) Annual Meeting** – GM Lapp asked the Board if they wished to attend the OACD annual meeting on November 9 and 10, 2021. The cost will be \$100 per person for the two-day virtual meeting. Directors Becker and Zuber asked to attend. Director Fantz may want to attend, and registration will be open until the day before the conference.

Directors Guttridge/Nelson moved/second to approve Directors Becker, Fantz, and Zuber to attend the OACD Conference November 8 and 9, 2021. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. North Willamette Research and Extension Center (NWREC) Harvest Dinner Sponsorship** – GM Lapp asked if the District would like to sponsor the annual Harvest Dinner for NWREC. Sponsorships range from \$250 to \$3,000. Each sponsorship receives two dinner tickets to attend. Directors discussed that they were in favor of a small level of sponsorship but would not attend.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to sponsor the North Willamette Research and Extension Center Harvest Dinner for \$250.00. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Procurement Procedures Manual** – GM Lapp asked the Board if they would support the establishment of a procurement procedures manual. The manual would establish consistency and clarity on payment procedures for recurring and non-recurring expenses. A manual will also clearly outline the specific authority and approval responsibility for purchases. Lapp noted it would be helpful for him as he is not familiar with past District processes. This procedure manual would be developed between administrative staff and finance committee members to be provided to the Board for review and approval. Having such a manual will bring continuity to operations and will lessen confusion. Director Guttridge asked to participate in the working group that would develop the manual and was welcomed by Treasurer Fantz. Directors were in support of this needed work.

5 – PROJECTS, PROGRAMS

- A. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)** – Staff McQueeney spoke with the Board regarding an exercise she asked them to participate in about implicit bias. McQueeney wanted the Board and staff to understand that the exercise was about revealing to each of us our own unconscious bias. McQueeney did not want anyone to be upset, the exercise was to help people be aware and to work towards acknowledging their bias. The DEI committee will be meeting during the first week in October.

6 – PERSONNEL

- A. Conservation Specialist Recruitment** – GM Lapp reported the last interview for this position had been completed just before the Board meeting. There were a total of six candidates interviewed. The review team will meet next week, and he hopes to make an offer to the selected candidate.

7 – BOARD AND MANAGER REPORTS

- A. Letter to Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on climate protection program** – Director Lee asked the Board if they had any comments or edits that they would like to make to a letter asking DEQ to include carbon sequestration in the DEQ climate plan. Directors supported the letter and there was consensus to move forward.
- B. Manager reports**
- Staff Reische reported that the Planning staff had been spending a great deal of time working on oak projects. A target mailing was sent to approximately 500 landowners with oak properties. The District has received 17 responses, with most properties being over 20 acres. Staff Cloutier and Donahue attended Small Farms School on September 15, 2021. Reische and Donahue are working on the renewal of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Grant that funds Donahue's position. They have letters of support from Yamhill and Marion Counties, who also participate in this grant. Please see Reische's planning memo which is a part of these minutes.
 - Staff Faucera reported that the District has received payment from the National Water Quality Initiative grant. Faucera is in the process of planning "first flush" samplings in the Molalla River once heavy rains begin.
 - Faucera and Reische are working with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) regarding their tax programs. Faucera hopes in November to have a hearing with the legislature regarding these programs.
 - Faucera reported that the IT transition to SpireTech has gone smoothly. Staff are contacting SpireTech for assistance. Although there has been some lag time in response, this has not had a significant impact on the Districts work.

- Faucera reported that ODFW will be offering grants in the coming year from the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund. Grants this year will be up to \$20,000 and are for on-the-ground projects.
- Faucera reported that the State of Oregon has received \$20 million dollars from the Recovering America's Wildlife act. The state legislature is looking for public comment regarding how the dollars should be invested.
- Staff Kilders reported that there had been 154 participants at this years Small Farms School. Staff McQueeney recorded the videos for the "Ask the Experts" portion of the school. These will be available online for participants. The District had provided scholarships for Veterans, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color to attend the school.
- Kilders reported that there are on-going video projects with the Clackamas River Water Providers that will be added to the Districts on-line video library.
- Kilders is continuing to work with the Climate Action Team. Please see Kilders Outreach memo which is a part of these minutes.
- Staff Leininger reported that Septembers weed of the month is Knotweed. The WeedWise staff has been working over much of the county on controlling this invasive plant. Leininger noted that staff and contractors continue to work with partners in the Beechie Creek and Riverside Fire areas on weed suppression and restoration.
- Leininger reported that the Cooperative Weed Management Areas staff are also busy working on projects and videos. Their field day will be virtual this year. Please see Leininger's WeedWise memo that is a part of these minutes.

8 – PROPERTY, PLANNING – No report

9 – OTHER REPORTS

- Director Johnson reported that the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals struck down Idaho's Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) Clean Water Act permit. This could have an impact in Oregon and other states.
- Staff Tucker reported that he is working with Richard Winkel, the Districts Auditor on this year's audit.
- Staff Faucera asked Kim Galland what the District would need to do regarding their portion of the office if there was a government shutdown. Galland reported if a shut down happens the office will simply be closed and locked down.
- Chair Becker asked what the next steps are regarding the Eagle Creek Community Forest. GM Lapp reported that the Board needs to become more familiar with the existing plan for the property and decide on their objectives during the Districts strategic planning sessions.

- Directors discussed that the Board is the ultimate decision maker regarding the forest property, but they want involvement and buy in from the advisory committee and the public. It was noted that requirements must be met regarding the Forest Service Grant.
- Chair Becker asked that the topic of the Eagle Creek Community Forest be on the up-coming agenda for the next Board meeting.

ADJOURN AND NEXT MEETING

- The next regular meeting will be on October 19, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.
- There being no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami L. Guttridge
Office Administrator



September 21, 2021

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Adapting Conservation Planning Efforts in Response to Weather Changes

In the last few years, we've been experiencing much longer periods of drought in the summer in Western Oregon. Check current drought conditions in Oregon here <https://www.climatehubs.usda.gov/hubs/northwest/drought-map> This summer, the sun scalding on many trees is obvious. There's also "flare-out," which OSU Forester Glenn Ahrens describes as branches, tops or sometimes whole Douglas fir trees turning brown and dying. The weakened trees often get *Dermea* or *Phomopsis* stem canker fungi, which can be followed by bark beetles and other insect disease. The PNW drought of the last couple decades is unprecedented in the last 800-1200 years according to EPA scientists tracking the epidemic of tree mortality in California. Recently, the tree growth rates of Douglas firs in Oregon have been shown to be declining due to increased soil temperatures and decreased soil moistures. In summer drought, they are forced shut their needle stomata, reducing water use, photosynthesis and growth rate. Tall conifers may be impacted at a greater level because they are more moisture stressed in winter months (even while they may be literally standing in water) because of freeze thaw cycle weather patterns that disrupt the hydraulic pressure systems needed to pull moisture up to their top branches, which can cause branch die-off.

Anticipating these trends of excess heat, dryness and sudden, intense storms and making adaptations can help us locally mitigate some of the problems. Addressing concerned landowners, planners suggest planting drought tolerant trees and shrubs along boundaries, on contours or in fields to provide more shade and conserve soil moisture. In some situations, we recommend substituting Douglas fir with Valley Ponderosa pine, or even hardwoods in planting plans. Ponderosa pine is highly drought tolerant. Oregon white oak is also highly drought tolerant and can be spaced widely in a field to provide wildlife habitat and dappled shade, perfect for grass and native wildflowers. Adjusting pasture management technical assistance is also a consideration. Many folks we work with are new landowners, setting up their properties for the first time. A grass pasture with no shade, especially south facing, will go dormant much faster than one with intermittent shade offered by scattered trees. Reduced tillage and keeping a variety of diverse plants on fields also improves soil water holding capacity. Returning clippings and residue to the ground provides food and nutrients for a functional soil food web composted of plants, fungi, microbes, and over time creates organic matter, humus and other soil water holding capacity. Soils with these properties will also infiltrate and hold more water when rain events occur.

**Building Water Resilience:
Soil Conservation**

Changes in the timing and availability of water resources pose significant challenges to irrigated and dryland agriculture across the Northwest. Anticipating and adapting to change can help reduce negative impacts.

Below are several resources that provide information on water challenges and how to address them. You will also find links to USDA programs that provide technical and financial assistance to adopt management changes and conservation practices.



Applying Soil Health Management Systems to Reduce Climate and Weather Risks in the Northwest. This document highlights how climate change will increase challenges to soil health and how tech transfer specialists can talk to producers about conserving their soil resources.

[WaterSoilResilience.pdf \(usda.gov\)](#)

Having vegetative screen barriers of brush and trees along property lines, on contours, or buffering sensitive areas can slow wind velocity, provide visual barriers, wildlife/pollinator habitat, and disperse and spread water runoff to prevent soil erosion. The USDA has set up a Northwest Climate Hub with some great information and resources for folks at the links below. This information highlights soil health as an important approach to reducing the effects of changing climate conditions and water access. <https://www.climatehubs.usda.gov/hubs/northwest/topic/building-water-resilience-northwest-through-soil-management>

Oak Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) Mailing Update

Our Oak Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) annual postcard mailing is underway! This year we decided to modify a postcard that West Multnomah SWCD used last fall for their Oak CIS outreach. Staff worked with Lisa to update the postcard for our use and develop a mailing list of landowners. The landowners on the mailing list were selected using the new Oak Mapping Prioritization data, focusing on parcels ≥ 10 acres located in oak habitat cores or in oak woodland patches with scores of 300 or greater. These parcels represent areas with large concentrations of contiguous oak canopy, or oak woodland areas, where we are likely to have some opportunities for oak release work, which is a good fit for the NRCS funding. Since this is our last year of Oak CIS funding in the Greater-Molalla area, staff wanted to get the word out to landowners in these oak-rich areas. The oak postcard went out to 479 landowners, several of which own multiple land parcels with oak. This selection of parcels gave us coverage over the whole CIS focus area and a mailing list with many new landowners, in addition to landowners we have mailed to in the past with large oak concentrations. We are gearing up for discussions about possible future NRCS funding opportunities for oak habitat in Clackamas County, so it's a good time to have a waiting list of people interested in this oak habitat work and funding.



The mailing went out on August 25th and we started hearing from interested landowners the next day! So far we have heard from 16 landowners interested in technical assistance for oak on their properties. Most of these landowners are new to us and many of them have greater than 20 acres. Staff have followed up with these landowners and will begin site visits to these new oak properties in the coming weeks. Some of the landowners will only need technical assistance and will benefit from our newly updated oak habitat flyers.

2021 Small Farm School

Drew and Suzi attended the Clackamas County Small Farm School on Wednesday, September 15th. What began as an overcast and chilly day gave way to a beautiful sunny and educational experience at Clackamas Community College. OSU, in collaboration with the CSWCD, Clackamas Community College and Rogue Farm Corps, did a stellar job of gathering local talent and holding an educational and outdoor, covid responsible classes for beginner and intermediate small-scale farmers. Held outdoors at the Clackamas Community College, this outdoor event held sessions with a wide variety of topics ranging from irrigation and water management to medicinal plants and rules and regulations for livestock management. Many



local small farmers and land stewards came out in force to absorb the knowledge of educators with years of expertise and talent in their field. Staff from both the District and NRCS attended such classes as Soil Health, Composting, Emergency Planning for Livestock in Disasters, Fruit Tree Pruning and Beneficial Insects in the Garden.

OWEB CREP Technical Assistance Grant To Be Submitted This Month

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board's (OWEB) Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Technical Assistance grant is up for renewal. If accepted, this grant will continue to fund the current technician, Drew Donahue, for another two years. Drew is shared between three counties, Clackamas, Marion, and Yamhill, where she provides technical assistance for new, current, and expiring CREP clients. The CREP program provides financial and technical assistance for landowners willing to restore critical riparian habitats across the tri-county area.

According to the preliminary results of the CREP OWEB monitoring report for 2019-2021, 9 out of 10 CREP projects monitored showed an improved Stream Visual Assessment Protocol (SVAP) score. The Stream Visual Assessment Protocol is used for NRCS planning and has been calculated on CREP projects for the past 15 years to determine functionality of the riparian area. The increase in SVAP scores CREP proves to be a successful program across the three counties.

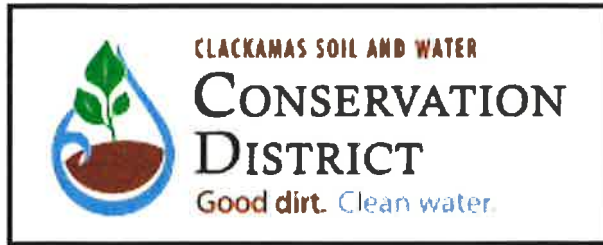
Partners of the CREP program continue to show their support as well. All three counties FSA executive directors and NRCS district conservationists have pledged a letter of support. The Greater Yamhill Watershed Council and North Santiam Watershed Council have also given a letter of support with in-kind, as they did in the previous application.

Greater presence in Clackamas County after 10 years, has also re-established many watershed council relationships and they have provided a letter of support with in-kind, such as the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council, Pudding River Watershed Council, and Molalla River Watch.

Yamhill SWCD and Marion SWCD are also continuing the partnership and have pledged cash match for the grant application. All three Districts are working closely together to complete the application and provide necessary funding to continue the CREP technicians position within the three counties for another two years.



2005 on the left and 2020 on the right, showing that CREP is an effective tool for getting riparian buffers established.



The Latest from the Education and Outreach Program September 2021

Web Posts

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

- [September Invasive Weed of the Month: Japanese Knotweed](#)
- [Small Farm School 2021 – Registration is Open!](#)
- [New Publications for Oregon White Oak](#)
- [Prepare Now for Fall Pastures](#)



September Invasive Weed of the Month: Japanese Knotweed

10th Annual
Small Farm School
Wednesday, Sept. 15th 2021
8:30-3:30
Clackamas Community College
Oregon City

Topics include:
Livestock, cover crops, food trees,
composting, mushrooms, stress
management, soil and water
conservation and more!

Who should attend?
Small-scale commercial
farmers and small acreage
land stewards.

Fifteen Sessions • In Person & Online • Limited
Registrations Available • Lunch & Snacks Will NOT Be
Provided

Guidance from the CDC, Oregon State University Extension,
Clackamas Community College will be followed to curb
coronavirus transmission.

Registration Fees:
Registration (Aug 10 - Sept 1): \$50
• Late Registration (Sept 2 - Sept 14): \$75
Scholarships & Student rates available.

Clackamas Community College
Oregon State University
Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District

Small Farm School - A big success!

One hundred and fifty participants gathered together at Clackamas Community College on Wednesday, September 15th for the 10th Annual Small Farm School. Participants were able to choose from 15 different sessions offered at six different outdoor locations across the campus. Sessions covered a wide range of topics from Stress Management to Mushroom Cultivation, and there were three tracks that specialized in courses on Livestock Management, Orchard Maintenance, and Soil Health.

Education and Outreach staff helped to plan and promote the event, developed a video series for the "Ask the Expert" component of the event, and provided assistance to speakers on the day of the event. Additionally, the District provided scholarships to help ensure that veterans and black, indigenous, people of color students were included.

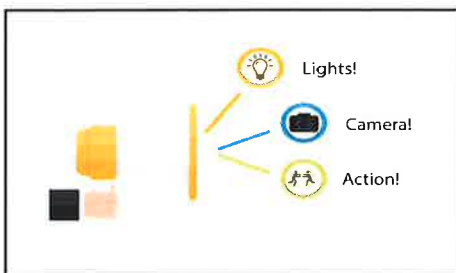
Updating the Outreach Library

Outreach staff have been busy with the conservation planning department updating previous handout material for sending to our landowners either electronically or via the mail. The oak habitat program is ready to react to those responding to the recent postcard.

We are also upgrading and creating new handouts for our horse property owners. One new handout almost ready for production hooks the landowner by presenting weeds and other plants that are toxic to horses and livestock, but also talks about pasture management and integrated pest management for invasive weed control! Stay tuned for Pasture Bullies!

New Video Project

Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District is partnering with the Clackamas



River Water Providers to produce a series

of videos to help promote the Clackamas Basin Pesticide Strategic Plan. In addition to an overview of the program, there will be videos covering practices that may be employed to reduce the two modes of pesticide transport: drift and erosion/overland flow.

Production should begin in October and will run through early winter. We hope to have finished products by spring.

Our board member Jesse Nelson has graciously agreed to allow us to film the Smart Sprayer in action and will be interviewed about his experience with this technology. Thanks Jesse!

Clackamas Climate Action Team Update

The goal of the Community Advisory Task Force (CATF) is to help develop a climate action plan to meet the county goal of being carbon neutral by 2050.

The third meeting of the Clackamas Climate Action Team was held on Aug. 26. During the first two sessions we spent time learning about each other and the process we will be using. This included a painful training on how to use a virtual whiteboard for collecting comments.

At the meeting on the 26th we received a presentation from the consultant that modeled the County's predicted greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, if we maintained business as usual. The agenda also included a discussion of the prioritization criteria for proposed actions.

The process seems to be moving slowly, but I think we will pick up speed over the next few weeks. We meet for 2.5 hours twice per month thru November 4, 2021. You can read meeting materials and watch past videos at www.clackamas.us/sustainability/climateaction

Even One Oak Matters

If you have oak on your property, you have something special. Oak woodlands are increasingly rare in the Willamette Valley. Since 1850, only 10% of oak habitats remain and 90% of remaining oak woodlands are on private land. The Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District is contacting landowners in the areas where oak woodlands are known to occur to find out if there is interest in a program to help conserve and enhance oak habitat.

Why conserve oak on your property?

- Fire Hazard Reduction**
 - No tree is fireproof, but Oregon white oak have characteristics that make them safer in the wildland-urban interface. Oak wood and leaves contain less flammable resin than Douglas fir or other conifers and are less likely to carry a fire.
- Drought Resistance**
 - After established, oak trees are drought tolerant and thrive without supplemental summer watering.
- Farm Uses**
 - The next time you pass a field with an oak tree on a hot day notice where you see the livestock. Other than blocking sun, the water transpiration through the leaves creates a cooling effect for animals.
 - Well spaced oaks encourage better forage utilization by dispersing leaf-luck and provide hunting perches for predatory birds that provide free pest control of rodents.
- Benefits to Wildlife**
 - Over 200 species of native wildlife use oak savannas and woodlands; however, even one oak in your backyard provides great benefits such as perches for raptors and owls for nesting and roosting, birds and animals.
 - Acorns provide a high calorie food source for many birds and animals.
- Maintain Native Biodiversity**
 - Nature is stronger and healthier when many different species live together and Oregon white oak are important contributors to this diversity. While oak's support a unique community of native plants and animals that are not found in other habitats.

and many oaks are a wonderful thing!

CLACKAMAS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
22265 S. Willamette Blvd. Beaverton, OR 97004
503.213.6970 www.clackamasdist.org

If you are interested in help with the oak habitat on your property, give us a call or send an e-mail.

This and other work of the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District is made possible by the generous support of our local and state governments, landowners, and the public.





September 17, 2021

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RE: WeedWise Program Update

Weed of the Month: Knotweed



September is the perfect time of year to spotlight the invasive knotweeds as our [weed of the month](#). The invasive knotweeds are comprised of a hybrid swarm of Japanese, giant, and their hybrid Bohemian knotweed.

The invasive knotweeds are considered to be one of the [100 worst global invaders](#). They are one of our most prolific streamside invaders, where they displace our native trees and shrubs. The knotweeds contribute to streamside soil erosion by senescing each season, leaving stream sides devoid of vegetation during winter storms and spring snow melt.

Effective treatment of the invasive knotweeds is best carried out in September and October when these plants begin to reabsorb nutrients from its leaves and stems and draws them down into the root zone. Herbicide applications undertaken during this time have the greatest potential to impact significant below-ground roots and rhizomes.

The WeedWise program is actively treating knotweed at various locations throughout the county. Justin has been actively working on knotweed in select locations in the lower Willamette. Lindsey has been targeting knotweed across much of the Clackamas Basin.

The Clackamas Wildfires: A Year Later



It is hard to believe that it has been a year since the Riverside and Beachie Creek wildfires spread across Clackamas County. Although these wildfires were devastating, they helped to demonstrate the strength and resiliency of our community, as neighbor helped neighbor during fire response and evacuations. It is also important to thank our fire fighters and first responders for their many efforts to protect the citizens of Clackamas County.

Since the fires, the WeedWise program has been active in the recovery effort. Before the fires were even out, the WeedWise Program Manager, Sam Leininger was helping to draft the botany and weeds portions of the [Erosion Threat Assessment and Reduction Team \(ETART\) reports](#) for the [Riverside](#) and [Beachie Creek](#) Fires.

Following development of the post-wildfire plans, the WeedWise program contracted with both the US Forest Service and the Northwest District of the Bureau of Land Management to carry out post-fire weed surveys, weed control, and early detection and rapid response (EDRR) control efforts. We have been coordinating with both agencies this season to help coordinate the recovery effort.

WeedWise Specialists Lindsey Karr and Justin Cooley have been actively working in the footprints of the Riverside and Beachie Creek Fires. They have been planning and coordinating contractors and are currently implementing fall weed control efforts to help suppress invasive weeds to allow the natural vegetation to rebound following the wildfires.

Although, it has only been a year since the wildfires raged across the county, there has been an immense amount of work completed. That said, even though the WeedWise Program is assisting to suppress noxious weeds within the burn area, the real recovery effort is coming from the natural regeneration of the forests themselves. Wildfire is a normal and natural component of our forests, and our efforts are intended to help facilitate this recovery.

Recent photos from the burn area



Know What You Grow: Soft Rush



Boardman Wetlands, Jennings Lodge

The WeedWise program was recently contacted by our partners at North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD) to consult on a non-native subspecies of soft rush (*Juncus effusus* ssp. *effusus*). The soft rush was inadvertently planted at a recently completed wetland restoration efforts at the [new Boardman Wetlands Park](#).

The non-native soft rush was introduced by a contracted restoration company during construction of the wetland and stormwater catchment. It is apparent that the plant materials were misidentified, and the non-native (*J. effusus* ssp. *effusus*) was introduced instead of the native (*J. effusus* ssp. *pacificus*). This error was only discovered following careful inspection by NCPRD staff following a 4-County CWMA Pull Together discussion on the topic.

Since introduction, the soft rush has spreading rapidly throughout the project area. There is significant concern about these plants spreading further downstream into subsequent storm water facilities and drainages.

WeedWise Manager, Sam Leininger was able to meet with NCPRD natural areas staff on site to confirm the identity of the plants, and to discuss various management options. NCPRD is considering a recommendation that includes a timed cutting of the plants ahead of seasonal inundation to reduce the non-native soft rush. A pilot project area is being considered for this fall.

End of Summer Weed Control efforts



The WeedWise team has been finishing summer weed control projects and are launching into the fall weed control season. This past month the WeedWise staff were able to pitch in to implement some projects together.

Courtney has been busy wrapping up policeman's helmet control work in the Sandy and launching into knotweed control work.

In addition to coordinating work in the Riverside fire, Lindsey has been treating policeman's helmet, purple loosestrife, and knotweed among others. She also treated a high priority patch of velvetleaf associated with an agricultural operation in the Clackamas River Basin.

Justin has been targeting knotweed in the lower Willamette, while coordinating fall control work in the Beachie Creek Fire. He also treated a newly discovered population of puncturevine in Canby.

In the last 30 days the WeedWise program has also treated meadow knapweed, tree-of-heaven, and false brome, among others. In total the WeedWise program has logged 481 new weed observations, carried out 208 new weed treatments totaling over 148 net acres.

Recent photos from the field



Cooperative Weed Management Areas



Columbia Gorge CWMA

The Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area recently hosted a general meeting in late August. The meeting featured Blaine Parker from the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission to discuss the impacts and interactions between non-native Northern Pike and flowering rush.

The Columbia Gorge CWMA Steering Committee has been continuing to plan implementation of a small grant program to utilize a surplus of Columbia Gorge CWMA resources. The CWMA is looking to reinvest these resources into worthy project funding for CWMA partners, and 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 committee meeting. The mapping and Data Committee has been working on development of a standardized data collection template for ArcGIS Online. Justin has been participating in this discussion and sharing our lessons learned.

The Education and Outreach Committee spent time discussing the upcoming Pull Together. Due to COVID-19 surge from the delta variant, the event will be help remotely. As a result, there is interest in keeping the event shorter in duration and more focused on core 4-County CWMA activities.

The technical committee discussed fall IPM treatment priorities and a discussion of newer products. Justin helped to facilitate this discussion. The group is also developing an action plan to submit several noxious weed nominations for: *Impatiens bicolor*, *parviflora* & *balfourii*, *Arum italicum*, *Aegopodium podagraria*, *Petasites japonica*.

In addition, the 4-County CWMA committee meetings, the Clackamas WeedWise program has been busy preparing several project videos and information to share with our CWMA partners. Due to the surge in COVID-19 our prior plans for a CWMA Field have been thwarted. Instead, we are developing a "choose your own adventure" for this year's field day with project areas highlighted. **So, stay tuned for videos to come!**

Voucher Approval List

9/8/2021

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
9/8/2021	100743	AFLAC	Acct: LGF14 09/03/21	\$ 675.73
9/8/2021	100744	Nicole Ahr	Reissue & Fee [NSF] 09/2021	\$ 315.31
9/8/2021	100745	Clackamas River Basin Council	CSWCD: Reissue & Fee [NSF] 09/2021	\$ 1,820.59
9/8/2021	100746	Clackamas River Water	Acct: 032328-00 Water/Fire [Reissue & Fee] 08/2021	\$ 2,152.91
9/8/2021	100747	Coverall North America, Inc	Acct: 157-6800/6920(TI) 09/2021	\$ 1,363.00
9/8/2021	100748	Garmin Services, Inc	Acct: DL627537 09/2021	\$ 73.66
9/8/2021	100749	Oregon City Garbage, Inc	Acct: 57768000 09/2021	\$ 103.10
9/8/2021	100750	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0266949-000 [100-0417] 07/2021	\$ 189.37
9/8/2021	100751	PGE	Acct: 9606754531 8/23/21	\$ 575.80
9/8/2021	100752	Spire Technologies, Inc	Acct: 02208 Mgmt Svcs 09/2021	\$ 1,629.17
9/8/2021	100753	T-MOBILE	Acct: 961602090 08/2021	\$ 526.42
9/8/2021	100754	US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems	Acct: 869284679 08/24/21	\$ 362.28
Subtotal:				\$ 9,787.34

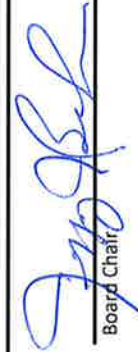
9/21/2021

9/20/2021	100755	Nicole Ahr	Reimbursement: Mileage 08/2021	\$ 184.80	
9/20/2021	100756	Buel's Impressions Printing	CSWCD: Printing [Oak Mailing] 08/2021	\$ 280.00	
9/20/2021	100757	Clackamas River Basin Council	CRISP: MOA-6 [Final] FYE2021	\$ 8,867.67	CF
9/20/2021	100758	Suzi Cloutier	Reimbursement: Mileage 08/2021	\$ 250.13	
9/20/2021	100759	Clackamas Dept of Finance	CSWCD: EE/ER Ben 09/2021	\$ 23,328.24	
9/20/2021	100760	Scott Eden	Reimbursement: Mileage 08/2021	\$ 80.42	CF
9/20/2021	100761	Verena Fabian	SuperDOG-1822-4032 Pollinator 09/2021	\$ 525.11	CF
9/20/2021	100762	Green Banks, LLC	WW-2019-05 08/2021	\$ 5,186.03	CF
9/20/2021	100763	Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP	Acct: 39888929-SG [80858496-R02] 10/2021-FYE21	\$ 289.65	
9/20/2021	100764	Metro Overhead Door	Acct: 57392 Svc Call 07/2021	\$ 231.00	
9/20/2021	100765	N&S TRACTOR	Acct: 169225 [PO-N37273] 08/2021	\$ 7,089.36	
9/20/2021	100766	Northwest Local Government Legal Advisors, LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Legal] 08/2021	\$ 150.00	
9/20/2021	100767	Norris & Stevens/OC Properties, LLC	CSWCD: CAM [221 Molalla-01/2020] 06/2021	\$ 598.48	
9/20/2021	100768	Sound Native Plants Inc	WW-2019-12 08/2021	\$ 4,377.23	CF
9/20/2021	100769	Spire Technologies, Inc	Acct: 02208 B/U Mgmt 10/2021	\$ 450.00	
9/20/2021	100770	Zeb's Wish Equine Sanctuary	DOG-2021-4048 HUA 06/2021 REISSUE	\$ 6,720.00	CF
Subtotal:				\$ 58,608.12	

Total: \$ 68,395.46

\$ 25,676.04

Total Conservation Fund


Board Chair


Board Secretary