

MCWC Meeting 2nd October 2008

1. Meeting called, greetings, introductions

2. Recorder's Report

There was one action to send a letter to ODFW about cut throat regulations. To continue regulations and improve monitoring

3. Treasurer's Report

\$113,000 spent this year; \$105,000 outstanding income due. Using line of credit to meet payroll

4. Education Program: Water Roundtables report

Wayne summarized the OSU Institute for Water and Watersheds, Tuesday Sept 29th meeting at HMSC. House energy and environment committee chair-Jackie Dingfelder was facilitator of the meeting. Dingfelder gave introduction that AK and OR are the only states lacking an integrated water plan.

45 min sessions: Facilitated brainstorming-used water disposal, water quality well, mixing zones, new contaminants, instream rights, WRD process, food security

Want to see: better treatment and reuse, cleaner home systems, respect local agriculture, prioritize stream rights, more collaborative, meet standards in the pipe, better disposal

OSU Gail Achterman INR, Overview of current water situation

1909 prior appropriation doctrine

1955 Basin plans but lack implementation

OR now has water scarcity

Growing population

Aging infrastructure

Fragmented oversight-development is approved without water supply available.

New Initiatives:

Headwaters to the Ocean

2008 Dec Bus Summit-water policy

Climate change projections

More seasonality in climate change

Bill Ferber WRD

Oregon has 14 NR agencies-most have a hand in water policy

WRD requires new rights to fit land use

Take advice from ODFW and DEQ

Programs to restore instream flows-900cfs has been restored

Grant Programs for water supply planning: Valsetz application

Greg Demon Water Master in Tillamook

Continued

Environmental and Instream Flows—Wayne Hoffman repeated presentation he had given at water roundtable.

- Concerns

- Ecosystems functions

- Interactions between

- Water Quality issues

- Instream habitat issues-simplified channels, reduced covers, impaired functions

- Connectivity issues

- Ecosystem functions

- Instream Flow Maintenance-coastal streams differ from other systems

- Sediment sorting and retention

- Entrainment and processing of nutrients

- Interactions between these above is important

- A restoration approach

- Rational Allocation

- Restoration of hydrological resilience

- Restoration Context

- Measure 66 funds might be used for areas above barriers

Chris Wheaton ODFW

- Instream rights mostly junior

- Fish need all the water so all is a negotiation of loss

- Valsetz is a major concern

- LNG terminal ballast water concerns

- Municipal water supplies: Rocky Creek

Lisa Gainer, Institute of Natural Resources, OSU

- Interviewed 18 people

- Half of coastal systems are small less than 10,000

- Instream flows and visitor use are issues,

- Utilities need work

- Consolidation of water districts makes sense

Lee Ritzman, Newport

- WMCP disproportionate burden

- History of sewage, water system

- Disposal in ocean

- New sewage treatment plant

- Bond for new water treatment plant

- Nye Creek cross connection issues (water and sewer mix)

Liquid Assets (PBS) problem. Group watched a short version of this show which is just now airing. Nation's infrastructure is failing

Facilitated breakouts

Water quality-non point source pollution, TMDL process, low impact development, mixing zones, address toxic blooms, macro pollutants

Reuse, recycle

Water Quantity-conservation, limited streams, avoid channelization, man made storage, tourist tax for water

Water rights: water management and measurement, ecological flows, demands on water, water conservation attitude across all uses

Ecological: high and low flows are important

Economic: development off the flood plain, how to maximize bang for buck, food security, price should reflect the value of water, NR agencies, infrastructure, water banks, water marketing, water as a public entity not private, Link quality of water to quality of life

Social-land use practices need to include water systems

Increase ecological and conservation ethic, use existing groups for education such as no child left inside, sustainable schools initiative

Whole systems thinking regulation with volunteer stakeholders

Create a summit-what are resources

What should MCWC's role be? Take as much role as we can take on. One role is to be a watchdog and keep our eye on problems. Education action plan should address the issues and concerns that were addressed. Natural Resource groups could suffer from human use interest groups. We should put our thoughts on paper now so that our paper can go to the forums and to other planning. We should let local municipalities know that we could be on the same page and could help each other with funding. What makes a mitigation wetland work, the function needs to be studied and followed up. Mitigation banking is used that doesn't look at function. Another idea-- economic development supports new solar wafer or LNG but no holistic thought process- need to think of water footprint. Need to think of total impact. Inadequate funding was mentioned in all sessions. Cost of watershed restoration should be taken into account.

5. Break

6. Technical Team Report

SWCD--new proposal for monitoring, listing of accomplishment and how data is used. Suggested that MCWC endorse the proposal. Rennie moves that we endorse SWCD proposal. Corrinna seconded the motion. Motion-passed

Proposal submitted by Stacy Polkowske SWCD for North fork of Beaver Creek-revised from proposal Ken Hobson had worked on. Restoration, rechannelization, fish passage improvement, riparian planting, O'Rien property at mile 7.5 -750 feet of spawning habitat. 3 under sized culverts changed: Remove 2 culverts and replace one culvert. Create more connectivity, removal of a fish barrier. Improve gravel to mainstem, improve transport of rock and access to new creek area. \$50,000, total cost in \$70,000. Recommendation from tech team was approved to involve youth in planting portion. Letter of support requested from MCWC-Rennie moves that we endorse the proposal, Anne Sigleo seconded the motion. Passed

Bummer Creek, Alsea restoration proposal, 2005 Limiting Factors Analysis. Separated out that part of the proposal for building 5 ponds. Instead (see below) they will apply for a technical assistance grant for pond design to get more information. This revised application proposes riparian planting, replacement of 2 BLM culverts, restoration of a Oregon ash swale, BLM may replace the culverts but don't know at this date. Motion made to submit by Rennie, Sam seconded the motion-motion passed

Bummer Creek habitat design proposal-technical assistance grant for the 5 ponds. Contractor: evaluate for suitability, feasibility, hyperemic flow, potential maintenance needs. The intent is to do this as an experiment to use some different approaches such as effectiveness monitoring, looking at growth rates, in ponds vs. streams next to it, sediment influx. This area has stream of multiple houses and farms along the creek. There was a discussion about the ponds after they are in place. This grant is in the range of \$12,000. Include soil profile possible? Could be a mitigation research project and training which might not be a good option. LFA were summer temp and limited gravel. Ponds could be a good compromise for this specific watershed. Is this a typical site for MidCoast? Ask the engineers to identify characteristics, generalize, if it would work, why? Find out what successful ponds they have done. Fran moved that we submit the grant, Rennie seconded the motion. Motion passes-one abstention.

Other technical team discussions: Missouri Bend area; culvert needs work as a safety issue, cutthroat trout habitat, Coho blocked from upstream

Discussion: problems in water quality monitoring, very low DO, small creeks, reed canary grass, pastures, South Beaver, Depoe Creek, downstream of Fruitvale, below 1 DO. Research is needed to locate the cause. Are the roots taking up DO?

Paul wanted letter to support marine protected areas/reserves, tech team didn't think we should spend our resources west of the beach. Some members believed that instead of assuming that group wasn't going to go for such a thing that the group discuss this. A straw poll was taken of those at the meeting? Regarding support of marine protected areas/reserves In favor, against, block? In favor position-6, more information- 1, opposed- 0. We need management out there for protection: what form they take might not be our decisions-only that something should be done. There have been some actions taken by sub-basins that were catastrophic. Suggestion that we talk about it next month and vote the following month. Be sure to tie our interest to connectivity of watersheds and nearshore. Another comment-endorsement needs to be made sooner than later. Connections need to be made if we make a stand, so link to watershed needs to be solid.

Feagels Creek bridge abutment protection is being done. Will need to work on more long term solution fix next summer.

7. Basin Planning Team Reports

Siletz- Mill Park was discussed. How to involve community. Need an agreement with the City about grants. Legal issues need to be in place. Kids in charter school in a contest.

Letter of support to ban gas motor above Mill Park on Siletz River. Marine Board didn't come across as interested. Gov was written, too. Individual people asked to sign a petition, Jan passed it around. They plan to address to legislature.

8. Salmon Drift

Handout

Finished Rowdy Creek culvert replacement- needs some planting. Culvert survey grant submitted.

TMDL-central coast water quality coordinating committee- Siletz Tribe has offered to help with coordination funds.

Oct: NFF national forest foundation workshop, capacity building grants

Volunteer work party at Pixie Land 9 am Saturday the 4th.

Bear Creek LFA done.

TA grant for Siletz dike removal.

9. Administrative Committee

Jan gave report, financial report approved, line of credit used, hiring policies worked on and laid out the steps, support application worked on, work plan update needs to be done. Due in December. Executive session

10. Education Report: see handout

Outdoor school next week is for Siletz, Eddyville, MidCoast Christian School and home school 6th graders.

11. Coordinator's Report

OWEB conference is in Eugene in November the first week. Subject is climate change. Hilton conference center.

PUD building is available again. Room at Thompson Sanitary isn't ADA accessible. PUD is a little more visible and larger space. Change the next meeting date to the 12th

Alsea watershed council had submitted application for council support separately. Could MCWC give them council support? County commissioners interested in mediation process. OWEB will pay for the mediation. As positive an approach as possible should be used.

12. Announcements

Two more deposits in fish log bank. Spruce and hemlock in 40 foot plus lengths.

Fran has copy of mitigation plan for filling in estuary for terminal project.

Stacy erosion prevention workshop, free lunch: 9th in Lincoln City.

13. Adjourn 9:21 pm