

**Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council
Steering Committee Meeting Notes
June 5, 2008**

Attendees: Deb Schmidt, Pam Reber, Dustin Bengtson, Larry Weaver, Paul Bohner, Diana Bus, Dave Cunningham, Allen Martin.

Check-In:

Deb –

- Attended Pond Turtle monitoring training and have since done some monitoring at East Regional Park.
- Attended the Mohawk Watershed Partnership Annual Barbeque.
- Working with the City on finalizing plans for removal of Rujada dam on Layng Creek and the Prather Creek dam and intake structure.

Dustin –

- Worked on Top 5 priority prework.
- The Army COE is doing a lot of flow coordination.

Allen –

- Working to try to find other sources for funding for a couple of our projects. Went to DSL on a couple of properties. Turns out no money was available. Pursuing through the Oregon Conservation Strategy.
- Still moving forward with the mitigation bank at Camas Swale. Being designed for a wet prairie.

Diana –

- Picked up trash at Garden lake park

Larry –

- Killed blackberries

Dave –

- Killed English ivy.
- Participated in the SOLV event in Cottage Grove

Coordinator Executive Summary

See Attachment A

Diana wanted to know what kind of office supplies are needed. Pam will get back to her.

STREAM Program Update

Stephanie Schroeder of Walama Restoration Project shared accomplishments. Coast Fork students trained in river enhancement. They are working with students from 4 schools doing riparian restoration and water quality data. Plan to form a habitat monitoring team next fall. Kids will apply. Students at Thurston High will come down and train the students down here. They have prepared a report of activities and accomplishments and will make that available electronically. Their biggest project was removing blackberries adjacent to Woodson Bridge and planting natives. A Cottage Grove project was featured in their most recent newsletter.

Steering Committee Evaluation Timeline

Decided to initiate this at the next Steering Committee meeting, which will be July 10th. Pam will send out the form by June 13th and members will need complete the evaluation and get it back to Deb by July 1st so that she can consolidate responses.

Top 5 Priorities

Dustin led the group to identify and agree on the top 5 priority work areas that the steering committee wants to focus their efforts and attention. After much discussion the group agreed on the following priorities:

1. Pursue non profit status
2. Implement Existing Projects
3. Expand Staff Capacity
4. Refine Organizational Model
5. Promotion of the Watershed Council

There was not consensus on how to move forward with further actions, except for pursuing non profit status. Pam will bring a proposal for decision to the next steering committee meeting.

Financial Report

No questions

Agenda for Next Steering Committee Meeting July 10th

Non profit status – further clarify the proposal – steps for moving forward - decision

Steering committee evaluation

Council picnic scope and assign – fix responsibility

Updates on ed/outreach and tech committee

* Snacks for Council meeting Monday June 23rd – let Pam know if you'll do this.

Adjourn

Attachment A

Coordinator Executive Summary

May 2008

Upcoming Events:

June 23rd Tour of Garden Lake Park Project

June 28th Water Ouzel Clean up Float

May Press:

- ✓ Front page coverage of SOLV event in Sentinel
- ✓ Additional April coverage included two planting events (Day of Caring and Earth Day)
- ✓ Ford Leadership Class program

Program Updates by Funding Category/Quarterly Work Plan Outline:

Support Grant

Administrative Duties

Fiscal management:

In June, Larry & Pam will be having two half-day sessions with Amanda. One will be to set up Quickbooks (with our own Chart of accounts), the other will be to work on the annual budget which we will need to approve at our July meeting.

Office:

Scott Burgwin continues to do work trade for his back office rent. However he has indicated to me that he plans to move out in June in order to stop accumulating that obligation. I think our office expenses are higher than we anticipated—funny how using the office uses up office supplies! We may need to plan a fundraiser for fall in order to buffer our budget.

Committee coordination:

There was no Tech Team meeting in May.

Education & Outreach Committee:

The Ed/Outreach Committee met May 14th, notes were limited to planning for the SOLV event. Due to schedule conflicts with school ending, our next meeting will be in July and will feature Jason Blazar of Camas Educational Network.

Garden Lake

Walama Restoration Project wrapped up work this season in the final section, Hill Creek. This is the one remaining area that needs to be completed. The East side has had an initial cutting done, but grubbing still needs to happen. This will be done next fall in advance of the planting season.

The third Ford Leadership Group in Creswell has selected Garden Lake as a project site. I am working with the team and attended a dinner where I was invited to speak along with Faye Stewart as a representative from my class (he was in the first, I was in the second class). The group is focusing on finishing the bridges along the north side of the park.

TMDL Implementation Planning (LCOG/DEQ 319 funds)

This project is complete with the tree plantings that occurred the week of April 21st along with the STREAM program. I will be invoicing LCOG and continuing to work with both Cottage Grove and Creswell on TMDL planning and implementation.

Floodplain Restoration

Please find notes from our May 2nd meeting in the appendices.

Mosby Creek

Instream Project

Just a note from Bob Danehy while we await the results of our application for funding:

Peter James and I will be taking Kim Jones's training on the habitat surveys methods. While we won't be doing the surveys, it will allow me to better understand how the data is collected and hopefully assist in analysis. Also, next week we will be installing the equipment to measure discharge near the old enhancement site and near the old USGS station.

B

Monitoring Project

This month I set up the contractual framework for this project to move forward cooperatively with ODFW Aquatic Inventories Project, WeyCo and OWEB. This entailed reviewing complex fiscal outlines from ODFW, ensuring that as much of the grant responsibilities were addressed on the front end, and securing a waiver for landowner agreements from OWEB (required a three-stage effort . . .)

Friends of Mosby Creek

Diana Brown and Phil Sutton hosted a Wild flower, Native plant and Bird watching tour on May 6th. While the council provided mailing labels and Friends of MC sent out an announcement via mail, the event was under-attended.

Concerns about a dead deer in Tarzan's Hole and local elections have dominated conversations in Mosby Creek. Local pilot Kent Koester continues his generosity in taking folks up for watershed tours via air. If he has offered to take you up, you should take him up on it!

Landowner Outreach in Mosby

The council applied to both the UO RARE Program and to the OWEB technical assistance program for capacity to conduct meetings, site visits and project planning within Mosby Creek. The council was not selected in the first round of organizations to receive a placement due to competition, however we were placed on a waitlist and will know by July.

May Events/Meetings:

May 17th Cottage Grove Watershed Cleanup a success with over 40 volunteers participating at 6 different sites. More than 3 tons of electronics were diverted away from the landfill and 3 of the sites featured invasive removal, tree planting/watering and watershed education components.

Appendices:

A: Willamette River Floodplain Restoration Study Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2008

Participants: Matt Rea, Christine Budai, Leslie Bach, Merri Martz, Eve Montanaro, Pam Reber, Doug Garletts, Tim Kuhn, Julie Ammond, Jeff Ziller, Chip McConnaha, Chris Smith, Chuck Willis and Mike Pope.

Notes by Pam Reber, Coast Fork Willamette WSC

Project Background—Matt Rea

2004

- ✓ Floodplain project start; Willamette Partnership as local sponsor
- ✓ Phase I of the Willamette Subbasin Plan completed
- ✓ LCOG aerials contracted and completed
- ✓ Technical analysis conducted HEC-RAZ.

2005

- ✓ Convened stakeholder group; developed a framework for evaluating methodology: Chip McConnaha and Bruce Dykaar conduct research.
- ✓ Sustainable Rivers Project commences (flow study) and features the Jan 2006 Blizzard meeting.

2006

- ✓ Base Conditions Report completed **this is key to Corps planning as it is the basis for analysis of all alternatives.
- ✓ Plan Formulation Workshops (of which this meeting is a component)
- ✓ June 2006 Public Meeting Series with the Coast and Middle Fork Watershed Councils
- ✓ EDT model combined with HEC and HGM models
- ✓ Late 2006 The Nature Conservancy (TNC) initiated conversations with Wildish about acquisitions

2007

- ✓ No funding except ODFW and BPA
- ✓ Focus on confluence due to potential with acquisition
- ✓ Detailed evaluation conducted on all Middle Fork reaches (1-5) and on Coast Fork reach 1

Local Sponsor

While Willamette Partnership performed this role at the start, Leslie Bach and the Nature Conservancy will be taking this on now.

Non-federal monies and staff time need to be tracked for Willamette Partnership and TNC local sponsorship. Cost share document needs to be modified before the Corps component can move forward. This can be accomplished via completion of a draft budget by Eve and Pam for the Phase II outreach.

Background Information—Merri Martz

Project Goals/Objectives:

Merri passed out Table 1 which outlined the goals/objectives from 2005. While water quality is acknowledged, it is only a priority that action would be taken on in conjunction

with a structural remedy of the floodplain condition, rather than independently, like a temperature control tower, e.g.

Discuss today: are there additional restoration measures that could be added today, or are there improvements to stated measures that could be targeted?

Note: improvements to floodplain function, etc. has not been quantified, the existing target could be framed as getting 'as close to original function/pristine floodplain' as possible. Quantifiable definitions include the 100 year floodplain and identified reaches (**note that language around quantifying outcomes might be something to frame in a particular way for outreach), some of these reaches (the 6 identified) are downgraded in priority in part due to constraints. Corps involvement dictates a certain scale.

Alternative Restoration Plan Formulation Strategies (document)

This outlines:

- ✓ No action: without Corps action (solely flow modifications, or for today, none)
- ✓ Passive approaches: P1-P5
- ✓ Active or Engineered approaches: A1-A7
- ✓ Flow modifications

Keep in mind outcome of actions will dictate a variety of habitat recovery times
Must assume that flooding cannot be caused, so levees may need to be relocated, etc.

Today: Review scope of activities with the goal of identifying actions that will meet Goal 1 by restoring the condition and capacity of floodplain ecosystem function.

Map Work

Merri, Christine and Chuck took a first cut at adding Passive approaches (P1, P2, P3, etc) in marker; revetments are yellow lines. A6 is LWD is noted in *. Mill race is not noted because it is underway.

We are looking to add as much information as possible . . . notes below per map.

ALL NOTES RUN ARE IN THE ORDER: CONFLUENCE TO HEADWATERS

Map of Study Reach M1/C1: CONFLUENCE Wildish Acquisition Project Area

Notes for C1:

ADDITIONAL INFO NEEDED:

- ✓ CONFLUENCE OWNERSHIP AND FBP PLAN FOR CONFLUENCE
- ✓ DATA SETS ON POND DEPTHS FROM EVE
- ✓ RECONNAISSANCE OF REVETMENTS ALONG SOUTH MEADOW SECTION OF COAST FORK (both sides of river)

P1—Acquisition/Conservation Easements

- ✓ Wildish Ponds & active floodplain acquisition under negotiation by TNC and Friends of Buford Park (Chris Orsinger, Executive Director)
- ✓ Old Bring Recycling site located on (current management by Lane County Waste Management) ***Need tax lot ID number & to determine actual property line—contact Patti Hanson, LCWM Director for status of property transfer to State Parks
- ✓ Riparian corridor and historic side channels represent long term conservation opps.—would need to contact and recruit landowners and possibly engage McKenzie River Trust or another partner to manage the easements (State Parks?)
- ✓ Confluence with Papenfus—interested landowner next to ODFW riparian planting site

P2—Invasive Species Management

- ✓ Area around ponds dominated by blackberry, Scot's broom and other invasives

P3—Revegetation

- ✓ Good canopy established within the first 1,000 ft of the confluence area only
- ✓ Ponds and other altered areas consist of impenetrable blackberry thickets except within functioning floodplain
- ✓

P4—LWD Placement: See maps by Merri and Mike

P5—Light gravel pit restoration

- ✓ Likely in all ponds on Wildish property, Jeff Ziller noted that these ponds were excavated by drag lines (thus shallower)

A1—Revetment/Levee Modification

- ✓ In C1, four revetment sections were identified
 - Revetment CF R1: just upstream of Wildish bridge on North side of Coast Fork
 - Constraint: possible active orchard use downstream
 - CF R2: Key location for allowing active floodplain activity
 - Constraint: farming in confluence
 - CF R3: Mt Pisgah turtle ponds need active vegetation control by floods in order to prevent succession and lose high priority basking area adjacent to ONLY known successful nesting area in CF tributary
 - Constraint: BPA powerline
 - CF R4: upstream end of large revetment protecting whole Seavey Loop Road area, could connect some flow to historic side channel that is seasonally functioning
 - Constraint: would require a control structure
 - Constraint: possible water right issue
 - Constraint: no known landowner interest at this time (long term)

A2—Structure/Fill Modification

(CAN WE REVISE HOW THIS STRATEGY IS DEFINED?)

- ✓ Road removal along Wildish property
- ✓ Bridge removal for access to Wildish property
- ✓ Move or reinforce powerline that is a constraint for A1 at CF R3

A3—Reconnect/Restore Side channels

- ✓ Island at confluence
- ✓ Reconnect downstream end of slough that runs through the Seavey Loop Rd area
- ✓ Reconnect upstream end of slough that runs through the Seavey Loop Rd area

A4—Gravel bar N/A for C1

A5—Rehab gravel pits (comprehensive)

- ✓ While pits in the confluence area may be shallow, areas where they are extensive may warrant redesign of flow/grade and additional wood structures.

A6—Large-scale LWD/Instream work/Bioengineering of revetments

- ✓ See notes by Merri and Mike on base map
 - Upstream side of all in-channel gravel bars

A7—Set back levees or revetments N/A in C1

Map of Study Reach C2: Short Mtn to I-5 crossing—Most CFWWC Reconnaissance to date (landowners)

ADDITIONAL INFO NEEDED:

- ✓ DETAIL ON WETLANDS OPPTS & EXISTING PROJECTS IN CAMAS SWALE AREA (ALLEN?)

P1—Acquisition/Conservation Easements

- ✓ Walkin property in holding across from Quamash Prairie and surrounded by State Parks land (landowner is source)
- ✓ State Park land across from Quamash
- ✓ Quamash Prairie—need to discuss with landowner the possibilities of revetment modification in context of existing wetlands mitigation plan (set up site visit?)
- ✓ Marple property or any willing landowner at or downstream of any A1,2,3,6,7 action

P2—Invasive Species Management

- ✓ State Park lands
- ✓ Walkin property (adjacent to mitigation site)
- ✓ Cinderella Park—highly infested with English ivy, blackberry, Scot's broom, possibly aquatic invasive species—bullfrogs, yellow flag iris likely. No elodea, parrot feather, etc. WESTERN POND TURTLES
- ✓ Any A 1,2,3,6,7 site

P3—Revegetation

- ✓ Quamash Prairie revetment—1,300 ft of unvegetated streambank that will not be planted until far in the future due to need for mitigation credits and presence of revetment
- ✓ Downstream of Marple property or any A1,2,3,6,7
- ✓ Cinderella Park
- ✓ Bowers property

P4—LWD Placement: See maps by Merri and Mike including in ponds at Cinderella

P5—Light gravel pit restoration

- ✓ Cinderella park

A1—Revetment/Levee Modification

- ✓ In C2, four revetment sections were identified

A2—Structure/Fill Modification

- ✓ Overall, C2 is hydrologically unconstrained on the East side except for the 4 revetments above and sections of Sears road (Cloverdale is well set back).
- ✓ To the West, C2 is very hydrologically constrained by the parallel of I-5, Hwy 99 and the railroad tracks (and River Rd.) These present a major constraint to reconnecting CAMAS SWALE WETLANDS to the COAST FORK. WIDER BRIDGES ACROSS ALL WOULD HELP.

A3—Reconnect/Restore Side channels

- ✓ Area due east of Short Mtn—extensive potential opportunities, landowners in this area have NOT been contacted or identified (north of State Park lands)
- ✓ Between Quamash Prairie & Cinderella Park there are these major landowners:
 - Lane County Waste Management--interested
 - Don Walkin—probably interested
 - Nathan Marple—hopefully interested—high priority opportunity area
 - Bowers—probably not
 - Emerald Valley—will be very worried and unwilling
 - One or two others—have not contacted.

A4—Gravel bar N/A for C2

A5—Rehab gravel pits (comprehensive)

- ✓ N/A for C2

A6—Large-scale LWD/Instream work/Bioengineering of revetments

- At potential revetment penetration on Marple property
- Two other areas of high opportunity if landowners willing

A7—Set back levees or revetments

- ✓ Should be on the table for all revetments in C2

Map of Study Reach C3: I-5 Crossing to just upstream of Row/Coast fork confluence

ADDITIONAL INFO NEEDED:

- ✓ Depths of Zumwalt ponds

P1—Acquisition/Conservation Easements

- ✓ ODOT/State Park ownership just NW of northern I-5 crossing of Coast Fork
- ✓ Zumwalt ponds in Saginaw (2 groups)
- ✓ ODOT ownership just NW of I-5 crossing of Row River
- ✓ Gettings Creek confluence
- ✓ Lynx Hollow State Park (one set of Zumwalt ponds is contiguous)
- ✓ North Regional Park and Middlefield Golf Course owned by Cottage Grove

P2—Invasive Species Management

- ✓ Gettings Creek confluence
- ✓ Lynx Hollow State Park (one set of Zumwalt ponds is contiguous)
- ✓ Zumwalt ponds in Saginaw (2 groups)
- ✓ ODOT ownership just NW of I-5 crossing of Row River
- ✓ North Regional Park and Middlefield Golf Course

P3—Revegetation

- ✓ Gettings Creek confluence
- ✓ Lynx Hollow State Park (one set of Zumwalt ponds is contiguous)
- ✓ Zumwalt ponds in Saginaw (2 groups)
- ✓ ODOT ownership just NW of I-5 crossing of Row River
- ✓ North Regional Park and Middlefield Golf Course

P4—LWD Placement:

- ✓ See maps by Merri and Mike
- ✓ Lynx Hollow
- ✓ Confluence of Row and Coast Fork

P5—Light gravel pit restoration

- ✓ Zumwalt Ponds (depth unknown)

A1—Revetment/Levee Modification

- ✓ Possible farm levees near Gettings confluence
- ✓ OTHERS?

A2—Structure/Fill Modification

- ✓ Hill Creek push up dam
 - Since annual construction provides flow a permanent in-channel structure may be needed (to reduce annual erosion, etc.)
- ✓ Passage and channel improvement on Hill Creek diversion structure

A3—Reconnect/Restore Side channels

- ✓ Constraint near I-5 crossing—CHUB POPULATION
- ✓ Lynx Hollow is some of the best braided habitat in the CF

- ✓ Zumwalt Ponds have opps for reconnection as backwaters if not side channels
 - Constraint: landowner may not be interested—they entered negotiations with ODFW/MRT at one point but these did not come to fruition
- ✓ Row/Coast Fork confluence including golf course backwater opp
 - Constraint: CHUB POPULATION
 - I-5/golf course would be a consideration

A4—Gravel bar recruitment

- ✓ Opportunity for access at Golf Course/I-5 crossing (Row)

A5—Rehab gravel pits (comprehensive)

- ✓ Zumwalt ponds

A6—Large-scale LWD/Instream work/Bioengineering of revetments

- ✓ See maps

A7—Set back levees or revetments

- ✓ See maps

Next Steps—Chris Budai

- ✓ Corps to develop draft alternatives based on our input.
- ✓ Next meeting to review draft maps and alternatives to occur by the *middle of July*
- ✓ Coast and Middle Fork Councils to develop outreach plan and begin implementation during summer 2008.