

Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds Progress Report for July - September 2000

Natural Resources Division

October 10, 2000

ODA Task #1: Senate Bill 1010 Activities

ODA will develop and begin implementation of Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plans for key basins by 1999 and for entire state by 2001.

North Coast

- The *Clackamas* Local Advisory Committee (LAC) approved their Draft Agricultural Water Quality Management (AgWQM) Area Plan and Rules, and these documents were forwarded to the Board of Agriculture for review.
- The Draft *Sandy* AgWQM Area Plan and Rules were forwarded to the Board of Agriculture for review.
- ODA Outreach Specialist and Clackamas SWCD District Manager met with ODA Planner to develop an outreach effort action plan for the Sandy and Clackamas area plans and rules.
- *Mollalla/Pudding/Fr. Prairie/N. Santiam* LAC continues to meet. Progress was slowed during the summer months since members were working long days farming. Oregon Trout LAC member wants plan riparian measure strengthened. A tour is being organized so the LAC can discuss in the field what would be expected of agricultural riparian areas.
- The *North Coast Basin* AgWQM Plan and Rules were filed with the Secretary of State in July.
- The new *Mid Coast* LAC, covering the Salmon, D River, Siletz, Yaquina, Alsea, Yachats, Siuslaw, Siltcoos and Tahkenitch watersheds, has met twice and is discussing water quality concerns in the area. The LAC is considering using various AgWQM Area Plans and the Ag Alliance Template as examples for developing their local plan.

Eastern

- The *North/Middle Fork John Day* LAC September session was attended by 20-25 ranchers demanding that the plan process be delayed, supported by a letter signed by 44 landowners, so that they can "catch-up" on the need for and requirements of the plan. A 120-day moratorium was given in the interest of increasing public awareness, in addition to earlier mailing and three

informational meetings, and to relieve pressure on individual LAC members. Concerns range from constitutionality of the water quality program to ramifications of implemented rules. Next meeting to be held January 15.

- Members of the *Upper John Day* LAC are reviewing and discussing their draft plan.
- The *Walla Walla River* LAC met to review and comment on the draft plan prepared during the summer.

South Coast

- Draft *Inland Rogue* AgWQM Area Plan and Rules has been forwarded to the Board of Agriculture for review.
- Revisions to *Bear Creek* plan are on hold. The Technical Advisory Committee recommended that the LAC accept 468B as the sole "unacceptable" condition. The ODA Planner suggests that a reasonable riparian rule be added to the 468B language.
- *Umpqua* LAC will review and vote on whether to accept the final draft of their plan and rules so that the draft can be sent to the Board of Agriculture in October for review.
- Newly established *Curry* LAC (first meeting held 8/3) is discussing basic procedures and expectations, and roles of agencies. The second meeting held 9/13 covered basic statutory concepts, with lively discussion as to why 468B has to be in the rules. At this point, LAC members feel that 468B is impossible to achieve. ODA Planner will put together an informative memo to review and further define the concepts covered in discussion.
- *Coos/Coquille* LAC is finalizing plan rules. The plan will undergo a brief review due October 11 from the Technical Advisory Committee before sending it on to ODA for review.

Willamette

- New *South Valley* LAC covering McKenzie, Middle

ODA Task #1: SB 1010 Plan Development Status

Western Oregon Basin Planning Areas		Local Management Agency recruitment	Local Advisory Committee recruitment	LAC approved	AgWQM Area Plan/Rules in development	LAC adopts plan and rules	Public comment period	Developing final rules	Rules become effective	Implementation in process
WILLAMETTE VALLEY	Molalla/Pudding/French Prairie/North Santiam									
	Clackamas									
	Yamhill									
	South Santiam									
	Lower Willamette									
	Lower Columbia/Sandy									
	Tualatin									
NORTH COAST	Southern Willamette Valley									
	North Coast									
	Mid Coast									
	Bear Creek (phosphorus)									
SOUTH COAST	Bear Creek (other parameters)									
	Greater Rogue									
	Coos/Coquille									
	Umpqua									
	South Coast									

Willamette (continued)

- Fork and Coast Fork Willamette watersheds, has completed its mission statement, description of area setting and the water quality issues, and draft goals. The LAC will work on the rules during their November/December meeting and will hear speakers on agriculture and various water quality concerns (bacteria, phosphorus and temperature) as they begin to write the rules. The LAC is unsure whether to include outreach and education in the plan or only issues required by law. The LAC is concerned that there are no data to prove that agriculture is contributing to pollution in the South Valley area.
- Polk and Benton County SWCDs have recommended 14 members and 3 alternates to ODA, the Board of Agriculture, and county commissioners for formation of a *Middle Willamette* LAC for Rickreall, Ash Creek, Luckiamute and Marys watersheds. The goal is to begin meeting in November.

- Linn SWCD is accepting applications for LAC members through November, with goal of starting meetings in January or February.
- The *Washington and Yamhill* SWCDs continue outreach, education programs, and technical assistance to landowners to meet local AgWQM area rules. Proposed TMDLs were recently completed for Tualatin for temperature, dissolved oxygen, phosphorus, bacteria and ammonia.

Central

- Klamath Headwaters* LAC finished the conditions sections of their plan and are working out the implementation details. They are concerned about water rights given the adjudication actions currently taking place.
- Hood River* AgWQM Area Plan and Rules has been approved for public comment. Public hearing will be October 23 at the Extension office.

ODA Task #1: SB 1010 Plan Development Status

Central and Eastern Oregon Basin Planning Areas

	Local Management Agency recruitment	Local Advisory Committee recruitment	LAC approved	AgWQM Area Plan/Rules in development	LAC adopts plan and rules	Public comment period	Developing final rules	Rules become effective	Implementation in process
EASTERN OREGON	Grande Ronde								
	Malheur								
	Wallowa								
	Umatilla								
	North and Middle Forks John Day								
	Upper John Day								
	Walla Walla								
	Hood River								
	Lost River								
CENTRAL OREGON	Crooked River								
	Lower Deschutes								
	Middle Deschutes								
	Upper Deschutes								
	Harney-Malheur Lakes								
	Goose and Summer Lakes								
	Klamath Headwaters								

- *Middle Deschutes* LAC is reviewing informal comments received on their plan.
- *Lower Deschutes* SWCD is working on the outreach efforts during this first year of implementation.
- *Upper Deschutes* LAC 's first meeting is scheduled for October 11.
- *Goose and Summer Lakes Basin* SWCDs are discussing management area boundaries and local management area activities. AgWQM area planning will begin next year.
- *Wallowa* LAC is putting final touches on their draft plan. ODA staff will review the plan at the end of October.
- The *Malheur* AgWQM Plan and Rules are ready for public hearing on August 29. Concerns center on too much regulation, potential directives from EPA, and potentially expensive changes in irrigation methods.
- *Grand Ronde* AgWQM Plan and Rules are in the imple-

mentation phase.

- *Baker County* is beginning to establish planning areas and committees. However, these constituents want strict local control with no ODA involvement.

Agricultural Water Quality Management Compliance Program

Between January 1 and September 30, ODA completed 8 complaint investigations.

During *July through September* ODA:

- Completed 2 Complaint Investigations
- Completed 0 Follow-up Investigations
- Issued 0 Water Quality Advisory

ODA Task #2: Confined Animal Feeding Operations Program (CAFO)

ODA will develop, implement, and maintain a statewide regulatory program for CAFOs that includes permit issuance, inspection, and enforcement for noncompliance with the permit.

During July-September ODA completed 168 inspections of permitted CAFOs, including:

- 85 Routine inspections
- 2 Inspections of permitted CAFOs in response to complaints
- 0 EPA/ODA joint inspections
- 11 Inactive permittee inspections
- 66 NON/POC follow-up inspections
- 1 Educational reviews

During July-September ODA issued:

- 12 Water Quality Advisories
- 0 Plans of Correction (POC)
- 13 Notices of Noncompliance (NON)
- 23 NON/POC
- 0 Consent Orders/Civil Penalties

Year to Date

Between January 1 and September 30, ODA completed 429 CAFO inspections. As a result of these inspections, ODA issued:

- 54 Water Quality Advisories
- 5 Plans of Correction
- 27 Notices of Noncompliance
- 28 NON/POC
- 1 Consent Orders/Civil Penalties

ODA processed 36 Animal Waste Management Plans and 35 Water Pollution Control Facility permits.

ODA Task #3: Education/Outreach/Incentives

ODA will provide assistance to Soil and Water Conservation Districts as needed to ensure Agricultural Water Quality Management Area planning occurs and is implemented for key basins in 1999 and for the entire state by 2001.

Willamette Basin. David Downing, Watershed Technical Specialist for *East Linn SWCD*, reports confirmation of support for a grant proposal for a 200-acre wetland restoration project in the Long Tom Watershed. This is a multi-agency project involving the National Resource Conservation Service, US Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Ducks Unlimited, the SWCD, and a landowner. Starting in mid-July, this SWCD will assist in restoring 35 acres to native vegetation and riparian habitat, in addition to excavating a pond for Oregon Chub habitat.

Benton SWCD Technical Specialist, Donna Schmitz, networked with several agencies resulting in greater District visibility. Groups are starting to include the SWCD in meetings and are recommending SWCD involvement with conservation efforts county-wide. The benefit to the SWCD has been heightened awareness of what other agencies are doing with area landowners, and what makes various restoration efforts successful. One other positive result is an exploratory meeting of a new watershed council in the county where folks expressed reasons for people to get involved in improving watershed health.

Eastern Oregon. *Grant SWCD* assisted with installation of a pump station and pipeline that replaced a diversion dam (a fish passage barrier at low flow periods). This installation allows water to remain in the river for an additional half mile.

Union SWCD Technical Specialist, Arnie Grammon, reports giving an on-site presentation to landowners attending the Union County Crops and Conservation Tour concerning setback dikes on the Grande Ronde and Catherine Creek systems. The application of set-back dikes on these streams allows expansion of the floodplain to take place, enhancing wetland function in the valley, leading to improved water quality and habitat for fish. Grammon believes this application of CREP monies is a good fit for both the landowner and the Oregon Plan.

South Coast. *Curry SWCD* worked together with South Coast Watershed Council, local citizens and landowners, industrial timber companies, and natural resource agencies to conduct extensive surveys in several of the most significant watersheds in Curry County. Surveys focused on assessing riparian and in-stream conditions and involved measuring shade, tree heights, providing valuable descriptions of these conditions. This work will assist in strategically targeting specific areas for replanting native vegetation and for in-stream restoration projects.