

Coos Soil & Water Conservation District



2011 Annual Report

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*Coos Soil and Water Conservation District
371 North Adams Street
Coquille, OR 97423*

COOPERATORS

FEDERAL

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
USDA, Farm Service Agency (FSA)
USDA, US Forest Service
USDOI, Bureau of Land Management
USDD, Army Corps of Engineers

COOS COUNTY

Board of Commissioners
Planning Commission
County Forester
Drainage District Chairman
County Water Master
Coos County Weed Advisory Board
County Road Department
Coquille Watershed Association
Coos Watershed Association
Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership

PORTS

Port of Bandon
Port of Coquille

OREGON

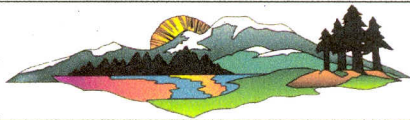
Department of Agriculture (ODA)
Special Districts Association
Oregon State University Extension Service
Department of Forestry (ODF)
Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)
Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Soil and Water Conservation Commission

DISTRICT STAFF

Eric Himmelreich, WTS/Office Clerk

ACCOUNTANT

Coquille Valley Accounting (CVA)
John Fandel
Seth Fandel



Coos Soil & Water Conservation District
371 North Adams
Coquille, OR, 97423 Phone/Fax: 541-396-6879

Coos Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors and Employees 2011

Zone 1

Ronald Petock,
Vice-Chairman
PO Box 1452
North Bend, OR 97459
(541) 267-8384

Zone 2

Tom Forgatsch
86814 Sydnam Lane
Bandon, OR 97411
(541) 347-9071

Zone 3

Charlie Waterman, **Secretary**
87518 Davis Creek Lane
Bandon, OR 97411
(541) 347-3453

Zone 4

Joe Cortez,
Treasurer
54065 Echo Valley Road
Myrtle Point, OR 97458
(541) 572-2504

Zone 5

Brennan Corbett
49315 Dement Creek Road
Broadbent, OR 97414
(541) 572-3245
brennan.corbett@gmail.com

Member at Large, Position #1

Sharon Waterman,
Chairman
87518 Davis Creek Lane
Bandon, OR 97411
(541) 347-3453

Member at Large, Position #2

Mark Villers
61456 Lower Mattson Road
Coos Bay, OR 97420
(541) 290-9650 (cell)

Registered Agent

Charlie Waterman

Associate Directors

Jennifer Himmelreich

Director Emeritus

Don Gray
Gordon Ross
Ken Messerle
Dan Varoujean

District Staff

Eric Himmelreich
*Watershed Technical
Specialist/Office Manager*
383 N. Folsom Street
Coquille, OR 97423
(541) 396-1306

Coos SWCD Committees:

Projects Committee

Sharon, Joe, Ron, Tom, Mark

Plan of Work

Eric Himmelreich, Ron

Business Plan

Eric, Tom, Sharon

Budget Committee

Sharon, Ron, Joe

Guerin Memorial Essay Contest

Sharon, Eric, Tom

Website Committee

Eric, Brennan, Mark

Personnel Committee

Sharon, Ron, Charlie

LAC Representative

Joe Cortez

Coquille Watershed Representative

Eric and Tom

Scope of Work

Eric Himmelreich, Eric Nusbaum, Ron

Small Grant Team Representative

Sharon Waterman

Coos Soil and Water Conservation District
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE – GENERAL FUND
Year Ended June 30, 2011

<u>REVENUES:</u>	<u>General Fund</u>
State of Oregon	\$ 81,982
Interest	210
Miscellaneous	<u>1,927</u>
Total Revenues	84,119
<u>EXPENDITURES:</u>	
PERSONAL SERVICES	
Salaries and wages	41,571
MATERIALS & SERVICES AND CAPITAL OUTLAY	
Accounting	6,055
Fees	214
Director's mileage	809
Insurance	1,202
Legal and auditing	2,550
Meetings – annual report/awards	644
Miscellaneous	450
Postage	140
Project costs: rock, cement, materials, permit and labor	15,637
Rent	2,100
Travel	1,060
Utilities: telephone and cell phone service	2,073
Vehicle expenses	<u>1,239</u>
Total Materials & Services and Capital Outlay	<u>34,173</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>75,744</u>
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	8,375
FUND BALANCE – BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>44,067</u>
FUND BALANCE – END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 52,442</u>

Annual Financial Statements and Review by Daniel J. Handran, P.C., C.P.A.

Technical and Financial Resources for Landowners

Coos Soil & Water Conservation District

Eric Himmelreich – *Watershed Technical Specialist*
371 North Adams Street
Coquille, OR 97423
(541) 396-6879

USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Services

Tom Purvis – *District Conservationist*
382 North Central Blvd.
Coquille, OR 97423
(541) 396-2841 ext. 3

Curry Soil & Water Conservation District

94181 4th Street
Gold Beach, OR 97444
(541) 247-2755

Oregon Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Division

635 Capital Street NE
Salem, OR 97301-2532
(503) 986-4700

Oregon State University Extension Service

Amy Peters – *Extension Rangeland Faculty*
631 Alder Street
Myrtle Point, OR 97458
(541) 572-5263

Coos Watershed Association

Jon Souder – *Director*
P.O. Box 5860
Charleston, OR 97420
(541) 888-5922

Coquille Watershed Association

Kelly Miles – *Director*
55153 Picture Valley Road
Coquille, OR 97423
(541) 572-2541

Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership

Mike Mader – *Director*
P.O. Box L
Lakeside, OR 97449
(541) 759-2414

Oregon Department of Forestry

63612 5th Road
Coos Bay, OR 97420
(541) 367-4136

Coos County Water Resources Department

Mitch Lewis – *District 19 Watermaster*
290 North Central Street
Coquille, OR 97423
(541) 396-1905

USDA – Farm Service Agency

Bret Harris – *County Executive Director*
376 N. Central Blvd.
Coquille, OR 97423
(541) 396-2841 ext. 2

Bureau of Land Management

1300 Airport Lane
North Bend, OR 97459
(541) 756-0100

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Pam Blake
381 North 2nd Street
Coos Bay, OR 97420
(541) 267-2721 ext. 27

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Don Yon – *Coastal Zone Management*
811 SW 6th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204
(541) 229-5994

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

63538 Boat Basin Road
P.O. Box 5003
Charleston, OR 97420
(541) 888-5515

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Mark Grenbemer
221 West Steward Avenue – Suite 201
Salem, OR 97501-3647
(541) 776-6010 ext. 231

Coos County Planning Department

Staci Leep - *Planner*
225 N. Adams Street
Coquille, OR 97423
(541) 396-3121 ext. 210



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As Chairman of Coos SWCD, I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to the Board and Staff. They dedicate a tremendous amount of time to this organization. This year brought three new faces to the Coos SWCD. These three individuals bring a whole lot of wonderful expertise to our Board. The youngest, Brennan Corbett, is a recent Stanford graduate and is ranching with his Dad. Tom Forgatsch, a retired science teacher, is currently a cranberry and blueberry producer. He is a wealth of knowledge with his agriculture and science background. Mark Villers is a contractor who works with many entities doing restoration projects and is member of the Coos Bay BLM RAC.

Coos SWCD has had a busy year. The new website is finally up and running. Please go to www.cooswcd.org to view the site. Feel free to contact Coos SWCD with comments and ideas to improve the usefulness of this site.

This year Coos SWCD assisted seven landowners with conservation projects. The following OWEB Small Grant Team projects were approved by the Coos SWCD Board: two K-line projects (water quantity), two fence and plant projects (water quality/stream bank restoration), and one bridge project (fish habitat, water quality/restoration).

Congratulations to Brett Clarno as Coos SWCD's 2011 Co-operator of the year. Mr. Clarno completed a wonderful fence and plant project along Mettman Creek.

I want to express my sincere thanks to Anne Guerin and Cheryl Griffith, daughters of Tom and Dorothy Guerin. They both stepped up the plate to keep the Guerin Memorial Conservation Essay contest going in memory of their parents. Anne especially has been instrumental in assisting me each year in reviewing the program and suggesting changes. Both have contributed financially to the program. A special "thank you" to all the students who took the time to write and submit essays.

I have served on the OWEB Small Grant Team (SGT) as Coos SWCD member for a number of years. This is an excellent program to assist landowners in doing projects. My sincere appreciation goes to the rest of the Team: Kelly Miles of Coquille Watershed Association, Mike Mader of Tenmile Watershed, JR Herbst of the Confederated Tribes, and Bryan Duggan of the Coquille Tribe. If you have small project under \$10,000 that will fit under the SGT umbrella, please contact Eric Himmelreich at Coos SWCD.

Last, I would like to express my appreciation for Chris Claire, ODFW Fish Biologist. He spends a lot of time educating and updating the Coos SWCD Directors on fish and wildlife issues at our monthly meetings. Chris is always willing to assist Coos SWCD staff and directors whenever needed with fish and permitting issues.

Sharon Waterman, Chairman
Coos Soil & Water Conservation District

Coos Soil and Water Conservation District

SWCD MISSION STATEMENT: *SWCDs help landowners and managers plan and apply conservation practices that conserve water, maintain soil health and productivity, enhance wildlife habitat, and improve watershed function. SWCDs serve as a central hub by helping landowners and managers access available technical, financial, and educational resources from local, state, federal, and other sources in their efforts to implement good conservation management, comply with environmental regulations and endangered species act requirements, and be good land stewards.*

COOS SWCD GOALS:

- To promote wise use of renewable resources through locally led voluntary conservation.
- Conserve, protect and develop natural resources for the economic benefit of the people of Coos County.
- Encourage measures for the protection of waters of Coos County.
- Assist local landowners in the developing and utilizing their resources to reduce soil erosion, conserve and improve water quality, maximize crop and forage production, improve fisheries habitat, and to support the economy of Coos County.



HISTORY:

The Coos Soil and Water Conservation District was formed in 1962, and coordinates government assistance with conservation needs, provides assistance, information, and education for Coos County farmers, ranchers, and woodlot owners to implement sound resource management and conservation practices.

The Coos-Coquille Agriculture Water Quality Management Plan (AgWQMP) was developed in 1998 for the 1993 directives of Senate Bill 1010. The document consists of an education component and a set of rules addressing measures that safeguard water quality, the beneficial uses of water resources, and provide best management practices for water quality concerns. The plan also includes the basins of Tenmile Lakes, Fourmile Creek and Twomile Creek as well as the Camas Valley and Lower

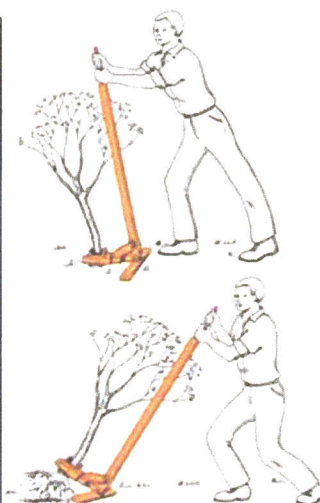
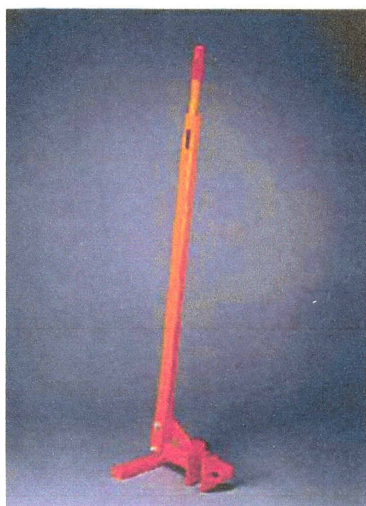
Umpqua areas in Douglas County. Two Public hearings were held in Coos County in the fall of 2001; and after a period of public comment and review the Coos-Coquille Ag WQMP was adopted by the Board of Agriculture in March of 2002. The Coos SWCD provides support to the Local Advisory Committee (LAC), which meets every two years for a review of the WQMP and associated rules.

COOS SWCD'S ADDRESS



The Coos Soil & Water Conservation District building is located at 371 North Adams Street Coquille, Oregon. The office hours are from 8am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday and anyone is welcome to come by. Pamphlets, brochures, and packets are available right when you enter the office. So feel free to come in and get any information you need related to agriculture, farming practices, water quality, herbicides and so on. Please stop by any time.

Weed wrenches: for extracting noxious weeds on your property (ex. gorse and scotch broom) are also available for rent for up to 2 weeks for a \$25 refundable deposit at the Coos SWCD (396-6879) and NRCS (396-2841) offices in Coquille.



COOS SWCD STAFF

ERIC HIMMELREICH

(Watershed Technical Specialist/Office Manager)

I look forward to hearing from all professionals in the natural resource field as well as any concerned citizens or landowners. I am willing to go out to landowner's farms or ranches and assist in any way possible. I am also willing to write grants to assist the landowners with small to large conservation projects.

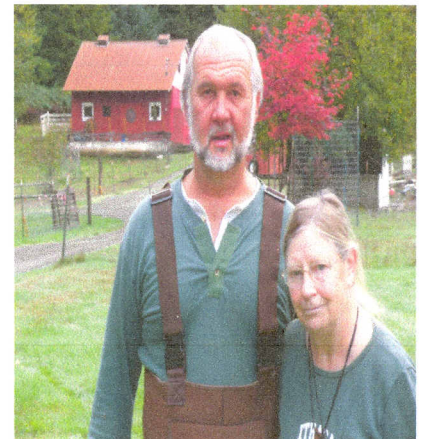


Please call the Coos Soil & Water Conservation District at (541) 396-6879 or e-mail the district at info@coosswcd.org.

2011 COOS SWCD DIRECTOR'S



(Left to right): Joe Cortez – Zone 4 Director & Treasurer, Charlie Waterman – Zone 3 Director & Secretary, Sharon Waterman – Member at Large #1 & Chairman, Tom Forgatsch – Zone 2 Director, Mark Villers – Member at Large #2, Brennan Corbett – Zone 5 Director. Missing from this photo: Ron Petock – Zone 1 Director & Vice-Chairman.



Ron Petock & Wife FJ
Zone 1 Director & Vice-Chairman

COOS SWCD OWEB SMALL GRANTS PROJECTS:

Coos SWCD's Outstanding Cooperator of the Year:

Brett Clarno: Clarno Ranch



METTMAN CREEK- Clarno's Riparian Fencing & Planting Project

Brett Clarno has 48 acres just east of the old Kentuck Golf Course in North Bend. He runs 10 buffalo year round and 20 beef cows in the summer. Brett also leases 5 additional parcels to run feeder cattle. He knew his place needed fencing upgrades and he had heard about the watershed program and he felt it was a win-win situation. Brett was able to get low cost fencing and was able to protect Mettman Creek and start a new riparian zone with trees that benefit the fish and the aquatic organisms. Brett is satisfied that the project now self sustained, except for the occasional beaver or nutria damage. Brett says that for the future he would like to talk to owners of his leased properties to get them interested in the OWEB Small Grants Program. Brett would like to thank the Coos Watershed who started this project and the Coos Soil and Water Conservation District, and all beneficiaries who donated time or money to projects like this.

This project was started during the summer of 2010 and completed in January of 2011. This project fenced 3/4 miles of Mettman Creek on one side. The fencing allowed for the management of blackberries, the exclusion of cattle, and the chance to establish a new riparian area with trees and shrubs. Mettman Creek is a coho creek so the added shade and bank stability will be very important for fish in this creek in the future. The landowner has been very helpful and flexible with this project, and that was very important. This landowner has even been flexible on what type of material he used for fencing, when it was brought to his attention that the small grants team was concerned about putting in creosote railroad ties near a fish stream.

Before Photos: winter 2009 (Blackberries but no riparian trees or shrubs)



After Photos:



John Rossback- Riparian Fencing & Planting Project



Before Photo: 2010



After Photo: 2011

This project addressed water quality concerns in riparian process and function. This year all the fencing was completed on this project. About one mile of fencing was completed on the landowner's creeks and ditches. One side of the creek has a permanent fence with woven wire and two strains of hot wire and the other side has an electric fence that can be moved easily to allow the landowner to clean his ditches.



Planting was scheduled to be done during the 2010-2011 winter and all the trees were purchased from local watershed associations and local nurseries including the Coos & Coquille Watershed Associations and the Power's Nursery. Due to the landowner's health, the planting got delayed until late spring. It wasn't the time to plant, but the trees were watered routinely. There will be an additional planting this winter to fill in the gaps and complete the project. Thanks to everyone who pitched in including neighbors, family, and friends.

Bastendorff Riparian Fencing Project



Before Photo

Contracted Services: \$1,550.0

Supplies/Materials: \$3,931.56

Total: \$5,481.56

Remaining landowner balance: \$3,618.44 (to complete planting & tree tubing)

This project included 0.4 miles of fencing to exclude cattle from Miner Creek which flows directly into Bastendorff Beach. The before picture shows how the banks have been degraded and there are no trees or shrubs in the riparian zone. The after pictures show how the landowners has cleared the blackberries and put up a road side fence and has put up a hot-wire fence to keep the cattle out of the creek. The landowner has also constructed two bridges to allow cattle to be able to cross to the other side.

COMPLETED PHOTOS OF THE FENCE & BRIDGE





OWEB SMALL GRANT: K-LINE IRRIGATION EFFICIENCY PROJECTS

Photos taken & provided by: USDA/NRCS staff



Dal King's k-line project: completed summer 2011.



Jerry Smith k-line irrigation project: completed fall 2011.

The Coos Soil & Water Conservation District received funding in June of 2011 for three k-line projects. All three projects are located in the North Fork and East Fork of the Coquille River, an area that is really important for Myrtle Point drinking water quality. All of these projects are important to keep as much water in the Coquille River during the summer months. This year the temperatures in the Coquille River were pretty warm, so these projects serve their purpose. Thanks to OWEB the Small Grants Team, Dal King, Kathy McDonald and Jerry Smith, NRCS and Pacific Ag, all three projects will be completed by the end of the fall 2012.

JONES CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT: (Two culverts replaced with two bridges)



Before Photo: April 2009



After Photo: October 2011

The existing culvert (actually a modified old gas tank) was breaking down and was undersized. It was not currently a barrier, but because of its size it was eroding the fill along the road and depositing sediment into Ferry Creek. In addition the second culvert that connects the two pastures was eroding and a blockage was beginning to occur, as well as it was no longer safe for equipment, livestock or humans to cross. The sides of the creek and pasture were eroding into the creek.

The project proposal was to remove the six foot culvert in the driveway and the forty-two inch culvert in the field, which was no longer functioning and replace them with two concrete bridges. Each bridge would consist of two 29'4" x 5'7" x 12" reinforced pre-stressed concrete slabs, bolted and grouted together, with a guard rails on the driveway bridge and a stock fence on the field bridge. Considering the well compacted driveway, the firm creek bank, the expected traffic, loading, and the more than adequate length of the bridges to span the creek width, we will support the bridges on treated 4"x12"x12' treated timbers, to ensure alignment, and pull the creek banks to a 1:1 slope armored with 18" minus rip-rap. We have calculated approximately thirty yards of rip-rap for the creek bank armoring and twenty yards of rock for the driving surface approaches. The field bridge will be raised approximately 18" above the field level, on a well compacted soil pad, to allow for high water flows during storm events to diffuse onto the pastureland downstream from the bridge structures. Disposal of the metal culverts, finish grading, cleanup, and affected fence restoration are included in the bid. A farm plan will be drafted for the landowner by the Coos SWCD to address streamside erosion and fencing to exclude livestock.



The work was done by Messerle & Sons.

LANGLOIS MOUNTAIN RAIN GAUGE SITES: Lunched August 30, 2011

In the early summer of 2011 Tom Forgatsch (Coos SWCD Zone 2 Director) thought of an idea for a project. He felt that it was necessary to collect data to better determine how much water is actually available to landowners and cranberry growers near the ocean. Tom Forgatsch called around and was able to get approval from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to borrow two rain gauges worth \$1,285 each for one year. The agreement was for the Coos SWCD to set up the two devices, collect the data, and share the data with the BLM. Some of the other agencies requesting the rainfall data include The Oregon Water Resources Department and the Curry Soil & Water Conservation District, Oregon State Extension Office and more. Eric Himmelreich will go to the two sites located up Langlois Mountain Road at ~ 2.5 mile marker (Site 1) and 12 miles up the road (Site 2) once every month to record the data and check the condition of the devices and the batteries. The agreement with BLM is for one year, but will most likely continue the agreement at least for a few years.

Site 1: Hildebrand's Property
(N 42 55.724' W 124 24.604')
Elevation: 1,006 ft, HOBO #: 194840

Site 2: Steve Kalina's Property
(N 42 57.174' W 124 18.135')
Elevation: 1,323 ft, HOBO #: 270940



EDUCATION & OUTREACH:

The 2010 Guerin Memorial Essay Contest Winners:

There were a total of 50 essays received at the office. There were entries from Myrtle Point Middle School, Myrtle Point High School, Coquille High School, and Marshfield High School.

First Place- \$125.00 cash prize went to Katie Ledbetter from Coquille High School. She was a junior in Mr. Devereux's science class and wrote about how agricultural conservation benefits fish and wildlife. She was presented with a traveling plaque with her name engraved on it that will be kept out her High School for one year.



Katie (left), Anne Guerin (light blue), Cheryl Griffith (dark purple).

Second Place- \$100.00 cash prize went to Shannon Boatright from Marshfield High School for her essay titled "*The Most Important Water Preservation Method.*" Shannon was unable to attend the meeting due to a school commitment.

Third Place- \$75.00 cash prize went to Kassy Freerksen from Marshfield High School.



*Winners received their certificates and cash prizes at the Coos Soil and Water Conservation District's Annual Meeting that was held at the Community Building in Bandon, December 3, 2010. The awards were presented by Cheryl Griffith and Annie Guerin who are the daughters of Tom and Dorothy Guerin, who are the person's the memorial essay contest was created to honor.

2nd Annual Free Manure Pick-up Day at the G-G Ranch



Once again this was a great event. There were not as many activities for the kids this year, but once again the landowner gave away a lot of horse manure. Forty six rigs came this year and this time you could fill up, unload and then come back again. This allowed for the landowner to get rid of 455 tractor scoops, roughly 114 cubic yards of manure. People had many different uses for this soil additive, but most understood how value the resource is and took advantage of this free event. The Coos Soil & Water Conservation District plans to do this again in 2012.





Before Photo



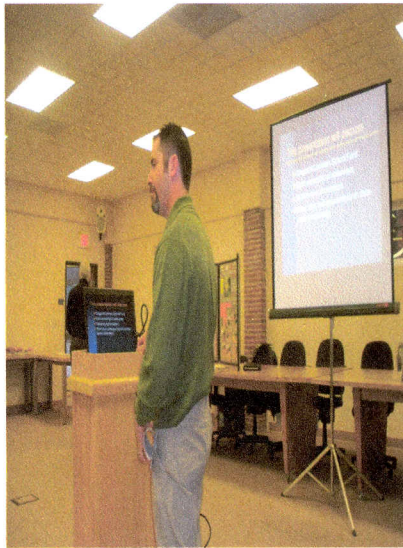
After Photo

STATE & FEDERAL PERMITTING WORKSHOP

Sponsored by: Coos SWCD



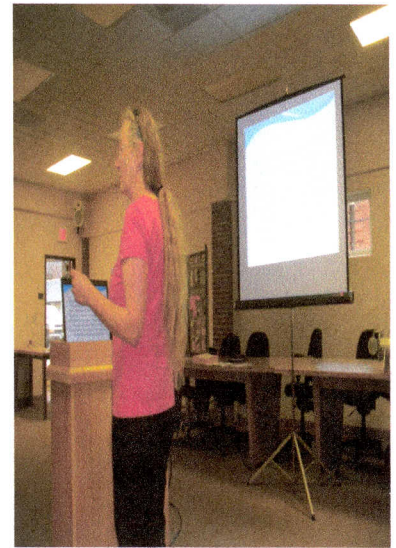
On April 6, 2011 this free workshop was held at the Coos County Annex Building in Coquille, Oregon from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with an hour lunch break. The event had a total of over forty participants and over 120 handouts were given out. A lot of good contacts were made and a lot of questions by landowners and permit applicants were answered by professionals representing these organizations. Among the presenters were Eric Metz (Department of State Lands-DSL), Christopher Castelli (DSL), Gloria Kiryuta (DSL), Benny Dean (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers), Ken Loffink (Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife), Jim Muck (National Marine Fisheries Service – NOAA/NMFS), and Pam Blake (Oregon Department of Environmental Quality – DEQ). We had attendees from as far as Jackson County and Tillamook, Eugene and Salem, as well as all over Coos County. This was a very good event and could have easily been divided into two days. People requested that this sort of event be offered again. The main thing that everyone in attendance learned is there is a lot of steps and agencies to contact, and every project is a little bit different so it is very important to get in touch with the Coos SWCD and local Watershed Associations as soon as possible, because they are capable and willing to help with the permitting process!



Chris Castelli (DSL)



Ken Loffink (ODFW)



Pam Blake (DEQ)

Water Quantity Workshop: "Untapped Water Sources"



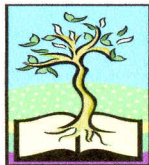
On June 22, 2011 The Coos SWCD put on a Workshop at the “Barn-Community Building” in Bandon that Tom Forgatsch (Coos SWCD Zone 2 Director) presented. Tom constructed a power point presentation and presented it to around fifteen people on topics that included: reservoirs, ground water, tectonic plates, rainfall numbers and more. Jennifer Woody and Mitch Lewis from the Oregon Water Resources Department gave short presentations on ground water permitting requirements and regulations. Conserving water is very important to Coos and Curry Counties and is a way to improve water quality by keeping more water in the streams and rivers. The techniques talked about were some of the ways landowners, farmers, ranchers and cranberry growers can use less water and still have a successful business.



Jennifer Woody (left) and Mitch Lewis (right)



Audience and Tom Forgatsch (right)



Natural Resource Days at the South Slough Interpretive Center

The Coos Soil and Water Conservation District participated for the second year in a row in the Natural Resource Days at the South Slough Interpretive Center April 11th & 12th. The event was very well organized thanks to the staff at the South Slough as well as staff from Oregon State Extension Service. The students aged 10-11 were able to learn about seven different aspects related to forestry for example aging trees by counting the number of dark

tree rings, using a compass, tree identification, and much more. The volunteer instructors were all professionals from local agencies for example Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Forest Service, and Plum Creek Timber. The kids had a lot of fun learning; there were games at lunch time and also a poster contest. This was a great event for the kids as well as for the volunteers; some of which have been doing this for many years (10+).

COOS COUNTY FAIR NATURAL RESOURCE TENT 2011



The Natural Resource Tent was assembled at the fair for the fourth straight year and once again was a great success. A special thanks to Tristan Huff, OSU Extension Service for his work in organizing the tent. Once again the Coquille Watershed Association hosted the popular button making booth where kids and adults were able to select, color, and make buttons of their choice. The ODFW fish tank show casing local fish was visited by every adult and child that came into the tent. This tent was a great opportunity to get a lot of natural resource information from one location.



The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is a technical Agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). NRCS was established in 1935 as the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) to carry out a continuing program of soil and water conservation. The Secretary of Agriculture organized NRCS in 1994 through authority provided in the Federal Crop Insurance Reform and the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994. NRCS combines the authorities of the former SCS as well as additional programs that provide financial assistance for natural resource conservation.

NRCS' role is to provide technical and financial assistance to help our customers care for the land. As a result of our assistance, land managers and communities take a comprehensive approach to the use and protection of soil, water, and related resources in rural, suburban, urban, and developing areas. The assistance we provide is based on an understanding that the land—the landscape as a whole—must be the focus of conservation. Using this comprehensive approach, the people we help are able to help the land function as a living, sustainable system that provides a high standard of living and quality of life today and for future generations.

Fiscal Year 2011 Accomplishments in Coos County, Oregon:

Practice Name	Units	Applied Amount	Number of Projects
Access Control	ac	1	1
Access Road	ft	5,715	19
Aquatic Organism Passage (fish screen suction inlet)	no	2	2
Brush Management	ac	284	2
Comprehensive Nutrient Mgt. Plan	no	1	1
Fence	ft	20,507	16
Forage Harvest Management	ac	107	5
Forest Slash Treatment	ac	8	3
Forest Stand Improvement	ac	449	29
Irrigation System, Sprinkler	ac	54	4
Irrigation Water Conveyance, Pipeline, High-Pressure, Underground, Plastic	ft	3,865	2
Irrigation Water Management	ac	72	4

Nutrient Management	ac	2	1
Pasture and Hay Planting	ac	113	7
Pipeline (livestock water)	ft	2,275	2
Pumping Plant	no	2	2
Restoration – Rare Habitat (oak savannah)	ac	40	1
Riparian Forest Buffer	ac	3	2
Roof Runoff Structure	no	1	1
Tree/Shrub Establishment	ac	65	9
Tree/Shrub Pruning	ac	6	1
Tree/Shrub Site Preparation	ac	57	7
Underground Outlet	ft	160	2
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	ac	37	3
Watering Facility (livestock)	no	2	2
Wetland Enhancement	ac	141	2

Financial Assistance

During the federal fiscal year approximately \$218,500 was obligated to program participants to provide assistance for implementing voluntary conservation practices on private working lands. This includes farms, ranches and nonindustrial private forest lands for the following category of resource concerns.

<i>Resource Category</i>	<i>Funds Obligated</i>
Forest Health	\$82,870
Forest Health – Beginning Farmer/Rancher	\$27,746
Water Quantity and Quality	\$66,996
Water Quantity and Quality – Beginning Farmer/Rancher	\$40,875

For additional information on NRCS and USDA Programs visit our internet webpage at: www.or.nrcs.gov.

The **Farm Service Agency (FSA)**, working in conjunction with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) provides farm production, conservation and environmental protection programs, disaster assistance, and farm loan programs to area farmers and ranchers.

Local staff, under the direction of the Local “County Committee”, administers FSA programs. Local farmers and ranchers elect the FSA County Committee members. The FSA Committee is *the most direct link* between USDA (Federal Agency) farm programs and local producers. The County Committee system *helps shape nation-wide programs into programs that work at the local level.*

With Congress currently in the throes of developing a “new” 2012 Farm Bill, it is vitally important that local folks use all the resources available to help shape Federal Farm Programs for the coming years. We have been, and continue to go through some trying times as a local service center with staff layoffs, retirements, and other reductions. However, FSA is still here to help our area producers, and we still have some good programs currently at work in Coos County, including:



FSA Disaster assistance programs:

The last Farm Bill tied *eligibility for FSA provided disaster aid to having federal crop insurance or federal coverage for non-insurable crops (NAP) prior to a natural disaster.* A key component of the “new” disaster assistance (*in most cases*) is that **for any crop (except grazing) to be covered, all crops (except grazing) on all farms (in all counties) must have coverage.** NOTE: *Grazing assistance programs are separate, and require a separate “grazing” NAP coverage on any grazing lands for which disaster assistance may be sought in the event of a natural disaster.*

The NAP service fee is \$250 per crop or \$750 per producer per administrative county, not to exceed a total of \$1,875 per producer with farming interests in multiple counties. Limited resource producers may request a waiver of service fees. Crop insurance prices vary by crop and by level of coverage – *Check the RMA website for agent listings.*

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

The sign-up for 2010 losses began Nov. 14, 2011 and will end **June 1, 2012.** The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters that occurred during the crop year 2010. SURE is available to eligible producers on:

- Farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties that have incurred at least a 10% crop production or quality loss, or both. All economically significant crops grown by a producer are eligible, *except grazed crops.*
- Any farm in which disaster-related conditions reduced the actual crop year production on the farm to 50 percent or less than normal production of the farm.



Disaster assistance programs for Livestock Producers:

Sign-up is currently underway for **2011 losses** under the *Livestock Feed Program (LFP), Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), and Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP).*

The **LFP** program provides compensation to eligible livestock producers that have suffered grazing losses because of a qualifying *drought or fire.* **LIP** provides monetary assistance to eligible livestock owners and contract growers for eligible livestock deaths (*in excess of normal mortality*) that occurred as a direct result of eligible adverse weather events. **ELAP** provides emergency assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honey bees, and farm-raised fish that have losses because of disease, adverse weather, or other conditions (as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture).

Sign-up ends 01/30/2012, for 2011 losses under the LFP, LIP, and ELAP programs.

CRP/CREP (Conservation Reserve / Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program):

In Federal Fiscal Year 2010, the **Coquille Service Center enrolled 9 percent of the new CREP program acreage in Oregon.**

Currently, Coos County has 29 active CREP contracts covering 234.5 acres, with annual rental payments to landowners or operators of \$24,349.00. Interest in this program continues to be strong as producers talk with their enrolled neighbors and through contacts made by NRCS Staff and Curry SWCD CREP Technician, Barbara Grant as they work with producers on this and other USDA programs.



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FY-2011 Crop Commodity Loan Programs:

*** Wool program for 2011 & 2012-crop years ***

Producers enter into an agreement with CCC to receive loan deficiency payments (LDP) benefits in lieu of crop loans for a specific crop & crop year. *Page 1* of form the form is the LDP agreement, which may be filed at any time (*like the beginning of the fiscal year or at acreage certification*) **but before beneficial interest is lost**. This page only needs to be **filed once per crop year**, and will cover all eligible commodities (*wheat, corn, oats, barley, wool*), and if the producer is multi-county, all counties in which the producer has an interest in an eligible commodity. The final date to file *page 4* (*application for payment*) on 2011 crop wool & mohair is January 31, 2011.



FSA Farm Loan Programs:

FSA continues to work with area farmers and ranchers, assisting them where appropriate with farm financing. Our direct loan portfolio has outstanding (*principle only*) balance of over \$3.866 million in direct loans (*the Coos County loan portfolio is 37.89% of FSA Dist. 3's portfolio, and over 4% of the total Oregon FSA portfolio*) with over \$690,000 in new loans for FY2011 - \$64,300 in Direct FSA loans and \$608,620 in Loan Guarantees made to 14 area producers.

FSA makes both direct and guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans to family-size farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain independent commercial credit from a bank, Farm Credit System institution or other lender. FSA loans can be used to purchase land, livestock, equipment, feed, seed and supplies. The loans can also be used to construct buildings or make farm improvements. If you're having trouble getting commercial credit, check with your county office staff about a FSA loan.



Information on all FSA programs is always available in the Coos/Curry FSA newsletter and on the FSA web page at [http:// www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) .

Special

*** FSA EMAIL NEWS***

Move with FSA to Instant Electronic Information:

The USDA Farm Service Agency offices are moving toward a paperless operation. Producers can now enroll in the new GovDelivery system for notices, newsletters and electronic reminders and discontinue their slow and costly paper copies received through the mail.

FSA, like many other organizations, is working smarter and more efficiently. Conversion to electronic notifications via email helps conserve resources and save taxpayer dollars.

You can subscribe to receive free e-mail updates by going to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe> or use the box "Sign up for updates" on the FSA homepage.

USDA was established 125 years ago and called "the peoples department" by President George Washington. Though our name has changed over the years, FSA's relationship with farmers and ranchers, dating back to the 1930's, remains the remains key. The grassroots approach FSA uses continues to give farmers a much-needed say in how Federal actions affect their communities and their individual operations. After more than 80 years, the farmer elected County Committee system remains the cornerstone of FSA's efforts to preserve and promote American agriculture.

FSA Office staff, along with the Coos/Curry FSA Committee, looks forward to assisting all the farmers and ranchers in the area should they choose to take advantage of any of the various USDA programs available.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Bret A. Harris

Bret A. Harris
County Executive Director
For the Coos/Curry FSA Committee

The 2011 Coos/Curry FSA Committee
LAA-1 – Sharon Waterman, Chairperson
(election pending – Bob Nelson or Sharon Waterman)
LAA-2 – Beau Allen, Vice-Chairman
LAA-3 – Jim Donaldson (Curry County)

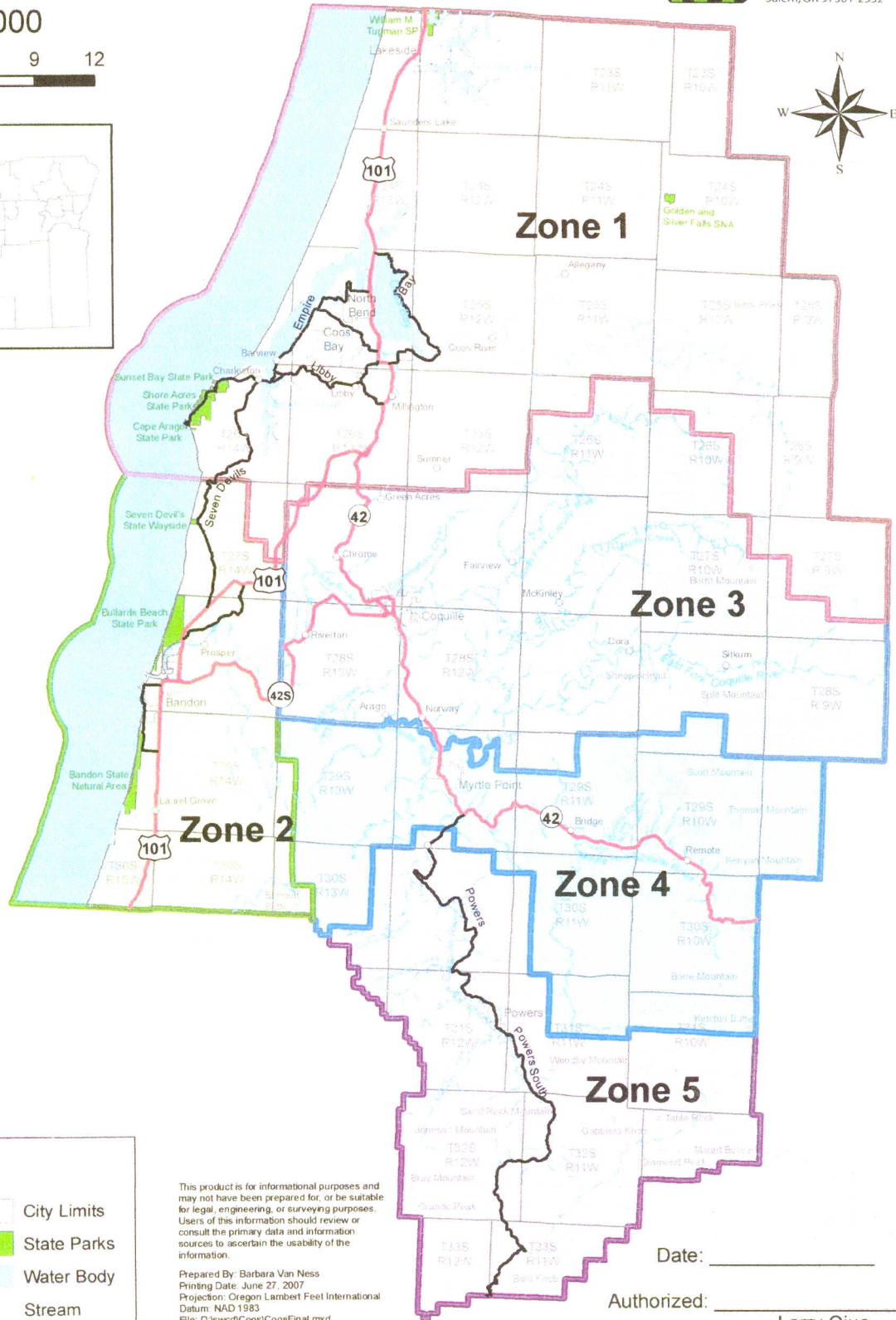
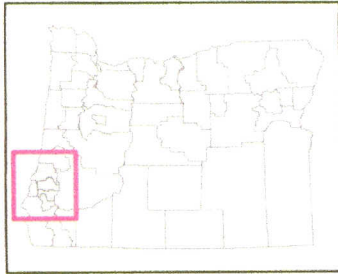
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Coos Soil and Water Conservation District



Oregon
 Department
 of Agriculture
 635 Capitol St. NE
 Salem, OR 97301-2532

1:450,000



Legend

City	City Limits
Summit	State Parks
Major Road	Water Body
Major Hwy	Stream

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.

Prepared By: Barbara Van Ness
 Printing Date: June 27, 2007
 Projection: Oregon Lambert Feet International
 Datum: NAD 1983
 File: D:\swcd\Coos\CoosFinal.mxd

Date: _____
 Authorized: _____
 Larry Ojua