# COOS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2020 Annual Report

# **Celebrating 58 Years of Service**

379 North Adams St. Coquille, OR 97423 (541)396.6879



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### Covid-19 & Our New Normal

The world has changed over the past several months and all of us at Coos SWCD have had to adapt during these unprecedented times. In March 2020, things around our beautiful state began to shut down, our world became uncertain and we started our "new normal." Like so many other agencies, we took the initial precautions and canceled our March 2020 monthly board meeting, closed the office to the public and started working from home. As weeks passed, we watched with the rest of the world wondering what would happen next. We made the necessary adjustments to how we conduct business; Zoom meetings became the new norm, wearing face masks became a requirement,

and "social distancing" was the new way of life. Other events were canceled including the Coos County Fair 2020, so we were unable to do our normal outreach during the pandemic.

During the summer months, with things cautiously opening back up, we are still available to assist landowners with their needs. Financial assistance is still available for projects. Our team is currently working with multiple landowners in 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.

# Grants Available for Landowner's Projects

Landowners looking for financial help with agricultural projects that have a direct benefit to watershed health can apply for up to \$15,000 in assistance. Projects must have a direct benefit on improving in-stream process & function, fish passage, wetland & riparian process & function, road impact reduction, water quality & quantity and irrigation efficiency.

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) Small Grant Program provides up to \$15,000 in Oregon Lottery funds for individual projects that help restore watershed elements such as creeks, rivers or wetlands.

We submit the application for review on behalf of landowners. The review process usually takes less than 60 days and successful applicants have up to two years to complete the funded project.

Please contact Coos SWCD at 541-396-6879 or email info@coosswcd.org to find out if your project qualifies.



Collapsing culvert replaced with concrete slab bridge at a livestock crossing.



Riparian fencing to exclude livestock from streams and protect riparian vegetation.



Four-bay manure storage and composting facility installed at a local horse boarding operation.

# Coos SWCD Annual Financial Review Fiscal Year 2019-2020

# Coos SWCD 2019-2020 Financial Report of Expenses: ODA Scope of Work and District Operations Funds

ODA Scope of Work Budget vs. Actual			
	July 2019 - June 2020	Budget	
<u>Income</u>			
Grant Income	\$58,446.25	\$58,026.80	
Total Income	<u>\$58,446.25</u>	\$58,026.80	
Expenses			
District Manager Payroll	\$21,742.61	\$16,266.80	
Watershed Tech Payroll	\$8,280.29	\$13,500.00	
Administrative Assist Payroll	\$15,186.83 \$0.00 \$3,091.25 \$0.00	\$13,733.00 \$165.00 \$4,750.00 \$1,500.00	
Advertising/Legal Notices			
Contracted Services			
Equipment			
Postage	\$660.00	\$600.00	
Production	\$439.00	\$1,500.00	
Supplies & Materials	\$5.00	\$1,200.00	
Training	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	
Travel & Mileage	\$1,372.94	\$3,000.00	
Website Maintenance	\$300.00	\$312.00	
Total Expenses	\$51,077.92	\$58,026.80	

The above table demonstrates our Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Scope of Work (SOW) and District Operations (DO) Capacity Funds budget and actual expenses for each quarter. SOW funds are used to provide technical assistance to landowners, promote water quality workshops, conduct monitoring, and develop grant proposals. DO grant funds are used for operating costs such as rent, utilities, bookkeeping, and insurance.

Funds to support Soil and Water Conservation District capacity have been appropriated by the Oregon Legislature to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). The funds appropriated for this purpose are from constitutionally dedicated State Lottery funds (Article XV, section 4b). Oregon Lottery Funds are dedicated under Ballot Measure 76 and awarded by OWEB to fund Oregon's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The Oregon Department of Agriculture has established an agreement with the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board for the distribution of grant funds to Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

District ODA Operation Budget vs. Actual Budget			
	July 2019 - June 2020	Budget	
<u>Income</u>			
Grant Income	\$24,868.50	\$24,868.50	
Total Income	<u>\$24,868.50</u>	\$24,868.50	
Expenses			
District Manager Payroll	\$3,759.29	\$4,500.00	
Watershed Tech Payroll	\$613.29	\$1,000.00 \$3,000.00	
Administrative Assist Payroll	\$3,755.31		
Advertising/Legal Notices	\$177.04	\$253.50	
Annual Meeting	\$446.71	\$800.00	
Contracted Services	\$3,747.75	\$3,600.00	
Equipment	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	
Insurance	\$1,890.11	\$2,000.00	
Office Expense	\$366.64	\$0.00	
Postage	\$172.00	\$250.00	
Power	\$1,036.43	\$800.00	
Rent	\$5,400.00	\$3,600.00	
Supplies & Materials	\$1,215.14	\$1,650.00	
Telephone/Internet	\$2,124.02	\$1,800.00	
Travel & Mileage	\$554.53	\$300.00	
Website Maintenance	\$300.00	\$315.00	
Total Expenses	\$25,558.26	\$24,868.50	

SWCD Budget vs Actual			
	July 2019 - June 2020	Budget	
<u>Income</u>			
Administrative Fees	\$4,616.25	\$16,012.71	
Carry Over	\$45,616.57	\$47,233.13	
Interest	\$599.26	\$550.00	
Mileage	\$0.00	\$350.00	
Misc. Income	\$429.73	\$120.00	
Status Reporting Income	\$1,300.00	\$0.00	
Total Income	<u>\$52,561.81</u>	<u>\$64,265.84</u>	
Expenses			
Awards	\$0.00	\$400.00	
Fees (Bank)	\$240.47	\$350.00	
Insurance	\$1,171.00	\$0.00	
Membership Dues	\$310.00	\$250.00	
Postage	\$0.00	\$350.00	
Rent	\$30.00	\$2,430.00	
Website Mnt.	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	
Total Expenses Net Income	\$1,751.47 \$50,810.34	\$4,780.00 \$59,485.84	

# Coos SWCD Annual Operating Budget Fiscal Year 2019-2020

FUNDS	TOTAL	
Beginning Balance	\$49,483.13	
Income		
ODA/SOW Capacity Grants	\$82,895.30	
Grant Income	\$229,282.98	
Grant Administrative Income	\$19,382.32	
Miscellaneous Income	\$520.00	
Mileage	\$1,365.00	
Interest	\$550.00	
Total Income	\$334,395.60	
Income & Beginning Balance	\$383,878.73	
Expenses		
District Manager Payroll	\$42,999.80	
Administrative Asst. Payroll	\$16,733.00	
Watershed Tech Payroll	\$39,583.00	
Contracted Services	\$8,350.00	
Advertising/Legal Notices	\$418.50	
Annual Meeting/Report	\$800.00	
Audit	\$0.00	
Awards	\$775.00	
Bank Fees	\$350.00	
Membership Dues	\$250.00	
Insurance	\$2,000.00	
Postage	\$1,200.00	
Power	\$800.00	
Rent	\$6,030.00	
Telephone/Internet	\$1,800.00	
Vehicle Maintenance/Fuel	\$1,000.00	
Website Maintenance	\$627.00	
Travel & Mileage	\$4,694.00	
Training	\$1,500.00	
Supplies & Materials	\$2,850.00	
Production	\$1,500.00	
Equipment	\$2,500.00	
Project Expenses	\$151,734.61	
2 Year Status Monitoring	\$400.00	
Administration Cost/Fees	\$17,232.71	
Total Expenses	\$306,127.62	
Ending Balance	\$77,751.11	

# Coos SWCD Board Members & Staff 2019-2020

### Zone 1

Adela Villers 61456 Lower Mattson Road Coos Bay, OR 97420 541.290.9650

## Zone 2

Dan Pierce **Secretary** 85091 North Bank Ln Coquille, OR 97423 541.347.5110

### Zone 3

Charlie Waterman Vice-Chairman 87518 Davis Creek Lane Bandon, OR 97411 541-347-3453

# Zone 5

Vacant

# **Associate Directors**

Sharon Waterman

## Zone 4

Michael Clary 53478 Old Broadbent Road Myrtle Point, OR 97458 510.610.3007

## Member at Large, Position #1

Ernie Newton **Treasurer** 1631 Bothwick Street Myrtle Point, OR 97458 541.572.2589

# Member at Large, Position #2

Mark Villers **Chairman** 61456 Lower Mattson Road Coos Bay, OR 97420 541.290.9650

# **Registered Agent**

Charlie Waterman

# District Manager

Caley Sowers 379 North Adams Street 541.396.6879

# <u>Watershed Technical</u> Specialist

Meriel King 379 North Adams Street 541.396.6879

### Office Manager

Modena Thomas 379 North Adams Street 541.396.6879

### **Director Emeritus**

Gordon Ross Joe Cortez Ken Messerle Dan Varoujean

# Coos SWCD Board Members



Pictured left to right: *Michael Clary* ~ Zone 4; *Dan Pierce* ~ Secretary, Zone 2, Local Rancher; *Charlie Waterman* ~ Vice Chairman, Zone 3, County Planning Commission, Coos Forest Protective Association; *Adela Villers* ~ Zone 1, Veterinarian; *Mark Villers* ~ Chairman, Member at Large #2, owner of Blue Ridge Timber Co.; *Ernie Newton* ~ Treasurer, Member at Large #1, Past President of Coquille Watershed Association

# Coos Soil & Water Conservation District Office

Our staff at Coos Soil & Water Conservation District consists of Caley Sowers, District Manager, Mariel King, Watershed Technical Specialist, and Modena Thomas, Office Manager. Our office is opened Monday through Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm or by appointment.



Coos SWCD Welcomes Our Newest Member to the Team

# Watershed Technical Specialist Mariel King



My name is Mariel King. I was born in Texas, and mostly raised on the farmlands of Missouri before my family moved to Oregon in 2012. Over my eight years in Oregon I haven fallen in love with both the land and people here, and because of this I have decided to make it my life's mission to foster a functional and sustainable relationship between these great people and the incredible land and resources they steward. To help me achieve this goal I went to Oregon State University where I received my Bachelor's degree in Natural Resource Management and Sustainability. During my free time I enjoy hiking, cycling, kayaking, good conversations, and hanging out with my dog and partner. I am overjoyed to serve this community and I can't wait to get to know you all!

# Offield Creek Riparian Enhancement Project

Two years later, the Offield Creek Riparian Enhancement Project is in good standing. This project is located off of Offield Creek, which feeds into Randolph Slough in the Coquille estuary. The primary problem with this site was the lack of established vegetation in the riparian area to provide any stream shade or bank stability. Through the implementation of 3,000 feet of riparian fencing, the livestock on the property are now completely excluded from the riparian areas of the Offield Creek main channel, channelized segments and connecting drainages on the Pierce Ranch Property. This has allowed for the riparian plantings implemented in 2017 to establish and prosper. The willows and cottonwoods continue to flourish in the area and are both well over 10 feet tall as of July 20, 2020 and both have a high survival rate. The establishment of these plants has subsequently helped shade out invasive species such as Himalayan blackberry and other noxious weeds from the riparian area. The site was regularly maintained by the owner through mowing and removal of invasive species. The site was monitored casually by Coos SWCD staff through the spring and summer of 2018 and 2019. There have not been any challenges maintaining this project. The project goal of improving streamside vegetation, stream shade, bank stabilization, and water quality are all being met. Another success for this project is that the landowner voluntarily chose to fence off a portion of the most western parcel of his property so it can naturally revert back to salt-march habitat. The area is doing well and wetland species continue to establish in the area.



Figure 1. (left) Pre-Project Photo from August, 2016, shows the riparian condition pre-project. This photo was taken during fence construction. The vegetation consisted of primarily reed canary grass and Himalayan blackberry. Some of the overhanging grasses provided a little shade to the creek, but there was no woody tree or shrub component.

Figure 2. (Right) This photo, taken from roughly the same angle in July 2020, shows significant improvement in the riparian community after four years post-fencing and planting.



# Offield Creek Riparian Enhancement Project cont.



**Figure 3.** Pre-Project view of Offield Creek riparian condition (7/29/2016)



**Figure 4.** Photo taken at approximately 1-year post-implementation (15 months after planting). Planted riparian vegetation is entering its second growing season.



Figure 5. (left) The stream is now mostly shaded by overhanging grass and herbaceous vegetation, and the cottonwoods continue to grow and are already providing some shade. We hope that as the cottonwoods and willows continue to grow and shade the stream, they will reduce the amount of reed canary growing in and around the channel. Riparian plantings are in their fourth season of growth.

Approx. 40 months post-planting. (7/20/20)

# Offield Creek Riparian Enhancement Project cont.



Figure 6. (left) This project was the site of a tide gate removal and culvert upgrade initiated by the County Road Department in 2016-17. Since installation of a larger pipe, the channel has begun flushing sediments and carving a more defined network in the lower portion of the pasture. This photo shows the new culvert and salt marsh tidal habitat post-fencing. (05/2018)



**Figure 7.** Culvert and salt marsh tidal habitat after 2 years of fencing. Willows planted in 2017 are approximately 5-6' tall. Trees planted in the portion of the project area are growing slightly slower due to the saltwater influence on incoming tides (7/20/2020)

# Offield Creek Riparian Enhancement Project cont.

Figure 8. Cottonwoods at 10 months post planting. Model is 5'8". (12/04/2017)





Figure 9. Cottonwoods 40 months postplanting. Model is 5'3".



*Figure 10. (left)* Photo taken during fence construction in 2016 shows the original riparian condition of Offield Creek on 8/29/2016.

*Figure 11. (right)* A row of willows and Cottonwoods now line the stream (7/20/2020)



The Trillium Stables Water Quality Improvement project remains in good standing. This project aimed to improve the water quality of several unnamed tributaries to the Isthmus Slough. The 130 ft. of rain gutters implemented on the main barn and paddocks are proving to be highly effective. The rain gutters in combination with reducing the paddocks and covering them with a roof has made it so herbaceous vegetation can now establish in between the barn and the paddock area. This has reduced the excess of mud and manure that is exposed to storm water runoff.

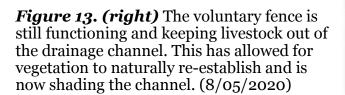
Areas which were bare soil and mud before are now grassed, allowing the grass to now act as a natural filter for any water flowing over the ground surface through these areas. The culvert the rain gutters are feeding into remains functional and is allowing for storm water to flow underground instead of being exposed to any potential above ground contaminants, such as manure. The storm water moves from the culvert into the main creek. This has also made a reduced amount of above-ground flow going directly through the stable yard, effectively reducing the amount of potential contaminants making their way into the stream.

The hardened site for the manure pile is holding up well; the gravel surface, rubber mats, and telephone pole curbs are all in good condition and preventing manure from getting into the streams (*Figure 32*). The small hillside pasture is in better condition than originally observed. More herbaceous vegetation has established along the stream and is effectively serving to shade the small channel. Vegetation buffers along the streams are all functioning well; the landowner has placed fences along all the streams and drainage channels onsite to help keep the livestock out of the waterways. This is helping to allow for vegetation to establish and shade the channels, as well as provide a vegetative filter for runoff.

Overall, this project appears to be successfully reducing and eliminating much of the previously observed stream contamination from the storm runoff from the barn and surrounding paddock areas. One of the main successes of the project was the landowners voluntarily implemented fencing (post-project) to keep livestock out of the active water channels, allowing for vegetation to be able to establish and begin shading the streams and filtering sediments more effectively.



**Figure 12. (left)** Landowner voluntarily fenced off the drainage channel running alongside his pasture (and out into the Isthmus Slough) and allowed herbaceous vegetation to establish naturally. (8/08/2018)







**Figure 14. (left)** Paddocks between barn and stables. Before: Highly concentrated mud/manure runoff area. (4/14/2017)

Figure 15. (right) Paddocks between barn and stables. After: Paddocks reduced and covered with roofing. Vegetation slow to grow due to compaction and poultry eating grass seeds. (8/08/2018)





Figure 16. (left)
Paddocks between barn and stables 2 years later: Roofing on paddocks still functional, vegetation is now established in between barn and paddocks. Gutters on paddocks are funneling water to the drainage area. (8/05/2020)



Figure 17. (left) Before: Main Barn, no gutters (6/14/2017)

Figure 18. (right) After: Main Barn, gutters installed. (6/14/2018)





**Figure 19. (left) 2 Years later:** Main Barn gutters and adjacent drainage, vegetation has established in the area and is serving as a filtration system. (8/05/2020)



Figure 20. (left) Main Barn, adjacent drainage (facing south). Before project: water flows directly through the stable yard and alongside main barn (6/14/2017)

Figure 21. (right) Main Barn, adjacent drainage (facing south). After project: culvert has been replaced and installed so that there is no longer any above-ground flow through the stable yard, vegetable garden planted (7/03/2018)





Figure 22. Main barn, adjacent drainage (facing south). 2 Years Later: Culvert is functional and vegetable garden is growing. (8/05/2020)



**Figure 23.** Hillside pasture which was being used as an exercise area (now retired), vegetation beginning to grow along the tributary. (10/03/2017)

Figure 24. Improvement of the small hillside pasture retired to allow grass growth, vegetation is growing up along the tributary stream. (3/25/2018)





**Figure 25.** Hillside pasture (being used as a paddock area for 1 pony), herbaceous vegetation has grown up and taller grasses are now shading the tributary stream. Fencing has also been implemented by landowner in order to ensure livestock do not access the stream. (8/05/2020)



*Figure 26.* New location of winter-storage manure pile, on a hardened gravel surface overlaid with rubber small mats, and with telephone pole curbs to further prevent runoff in direction of stream. (8/08/2018)



*Figure 27.* New location of winter storage manure pile, on hardened gravel surface, overlaid with rubber mats and telephone pole curbs. 2 years later: still preventing runoff in direction of stream. (8/05/2020)

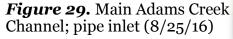
The Adams Creek Culvert Replacement is in good standing. The Adams Creek Watershed is a tributary to the South Tenmile Lake in Lakeside, Oregon. In 2016, the landowner reached out to Coos SWCD regarding the main culvert onsite was failing due to age (Figures 1-2). The culvert was also causing hydrologic dysfunction due to being undersized. This created a "pinch point" of the channel, obstructing natural flow and causing the stream to deposit sediment around the inlet and inside of the pipe. As the pipe began to fill with sediments, reducing its aperture even further, the stream would overflow into the adjacent pastures and form new channels around the obstruction.

Through Small Grant Project 04-18-006, the failing culvert was replaced with a 20' long by 16' wide engineered concrete slab bridge (designed to meet fish passage and to properly accommodate the Active Channel Width). The bridge appears sound and is allowing water and sediments to pass, effectively relieving the "pinch point" in the channel and restoring a more natural hydraulic function to the site. The bridge also allows the landowner access to the pasture on the other side of the stream, so they can manage their livestock grazing activities.

Although the change is subtle, the channel does appear to have begun to flush itself out more and is becoming slightly more defined (Figures 3 - 8). Overall, the installment of this bridge has dealt with the hydraulic issues on site that were created by the failing culvert, and two years later it is still standing and performing properly (Figures 9-11). This site would benefit even further from riparian plantings and exclusion fencing to help keep cattle out of the channel and to shade the stream. The channel seems to be improving conditions, as there were many juvenile fish, frogs, and macroinvertebrates present in the stream, as of August 2020 (Figure 12). This bridge should continue to allow for the channel to become more defined throughout the years.



*Figure 28.* Main Adams Creek Channel; pipe outlet (8/25/16)







*Figure 30.* Adams Creek culvert inlet (facing upstream) 8/27/2018 just after bridge installation.



**Figure 31.** Adams Creek main Channel inlet (looking upstream). After 2 years after Bridge instillation (8/05/2020)



*Figure 32.* Adams Creek culvert outlet (facing downstream) just after bridge installation (8/27/2018).



*Figure 33.* Adams Creek Main Channel inlet, 2 years after bridge instillation (8/25/2020). Water levels may be higher this year, however the channel has clearly flushed some of the sediments and there is less vegetation in the channel. This indicates improved movement and sediment exportation.



Figure 34. Winter high-flows following bridge installation. (11/29/2018)



*Figure 35.* Two years after bridge implementation, crossing is still in good standing and the channel is becoming more defined. (8/05/2020)



*Figure 36.* Main Adams Creek channel; facing north, channel is flushing sediments better and gradually becoming more defined two years after culvert replacement. (8/05/2020)



*Figure 37.* Mosquito fish, macroinvertebrates, and frogs appeared to be very abundant in the channel. (8/05/2020)

# **Johnson Creek Stream Crossing Project**

Each year, the Coos Soil and Water Conservation District chooses one outstanding cooperator to receive particular recognition at the Coos SWCD Annual Meeting as our "Cooperator of the Year." This year the award goes to Bob and Cindy MacWhorter, for their work with the District on the OWEB Small Grant-funded project "Johnson Creek Stream Crossing."

The MacWhorter property is located on Johnson Creek, south of Bandon. In late 2018-early 2019, the culvert of the MacWhorter property began to deteriorate rapidly, resulting in the partial collapse of the stream crossing. The culvert degraded to a level where rust gaps in the bottom allowed for streamflow to run partially through the culvert and partially under the pipe. This resulted in flows being directed in multiple pathways and ultimately creating velocity issues within the stream. If this problem were not addressed, the collapse of the culvert would threaten to impair both the landowner's and fish access to the upper reaches of Johnson Creek. Additionally, through continued erosion and collapse of the pipe would contribute a substantial sediment input to the stream effecting fish habitat and instream flow. To address the problem the MacWhorter's are working with Coos SWCD to replace the failing culvert with a new stream crossing bridge. This will result in alleviating the high potential of complete road prism failure and restore full fish access to the creek. While the MacWhorters may have been able to handle this problem themselves, they made the decision to reach out to the Coos SWCD to make sure that the new bridge was designed properly to ensure all environmental benefits that could be received, would be.

Bob and Cindy MacWhorter continuously prove to be amazing stewards of their land. They take the time to host outreach events on their property, where they help educate the public on how to effectively manage forest lands. They also are extremely knowledgeable and friendly people who continue to pursue being good environmental stewards of the land. The Coos SWCD would like to thank Bob and Cindy for all the work and involvement they have done and continue to do for their property and community.

# Below are photos from the failing culvert on the MacWhorter property.



Forest Access road erosion due to collapsed culvert- Pipe Outlet (5/09/2019)



MacWhorter pipe inlet. (5/09/201)

# Coos & Curry SWCD CREP TA 2020

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) in Coos and Curry Counties continued through 2019-2020 to provide technical and financial assistance to landowners who choose to restore pasture-side riparian buffers and to maintain those buffers for a 10 to 15-year contract. This ranch-friendly program helps fence out problem stream corridors where mud and steep slopes create difficult livestock management while addressing some of the most pressing instream habitat issues in the region, such as excessive sediment and elevated water temperatures.

A pasture riparian buffer restoration project simplifies livestock operations, protects surface water quality, and provides wildlife habitat. General wildlife habitat can also accommodate wildlife of concern to the landowner. This year we are adapting pasture-side habitat for native bees and other pollinators for nearby crops. A riparian buffer can be a perfect refuge, for example, for native bumble bees.





Photos courtesy of Andony Melathopoulos, Oregon State University Pollinator Health Extension

A riparian restoration designed to accommodate native bees provides shelter for overwintering, space for nesting, and flowers for early and late-season foraging. Loose soil and woody duff, lodged grasses, rotting logs, hollow stems, and abandoned rodent burrows provide shelter and nesting space. Blooming plants are carefully selected to avoid competition with crops. The benefits of riparian restoration to pollinators and other wildlife are numerous; the operational benefits include healthy, vigorous native bee populations to pollinate crops through the cool, wet, and windy conditions that discourage European honeybee activity.

2019-2020 status: CREP enrollment in Coos and Curry Counties has been down slightly this year. All 5 contracts eligible for re-enrollment October 1, 2020 are on properties undergoing significant management changes: Two are being sold to new owners, and the others are being passed to the next generation due to age and health. As the agricultural economy in our region evolves due to aging farmers and ranch succession, conservation practitioners need to keep engaging newcomers, both to our area and to farming. Luckily, CREP is a program that is very useful to new and to experienced land managers!

### Noxious Weeds

Noxious weeds pose serious threats to the South Coast economy and ecosystems. Noxious weeds are nonnative plants that have been legally designated as major pests because they cause economic loss or harm the environment. Most noxious weeds prefer disturbed and heavily used areas. Timberlands, roadways and agriculture lands are highly susceptible to noxious weed infestations.

Once established, noxious weeds are extremely difficult to control without the use of herbicides. Early detection of priority noxious weeds is critical to our local economy and needs to be addressed within the entire district. In 2018, with funding from the Oregon State Weed Board and in partnership with the Coos County Noxious Weed Control District Advisory Board, a new project to reduce the spread of noxious weeds was launched and has continued through 2020.

The Coos County Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) Strike Team brings community awareness of the County's listed noxious weeds, shares expertise on identification, maps local infestations, and takes active control measures to reduce the impact of noxious weeds in our area.

For more information or to report noxious weeds, contact the Strike Team project managers with the **Coquille Watershed Association** (Sherri Laier - slaier@coquillewatershed.org) and **Coos Watershed Association** (Lucy Alison - lalison@cooswatershed.org).

# Coos County 2020 Listed Noxious Weeds



Knotweeds aggressively take over stream banks, gravel bars and floodplains.



Ingestion of milk thistle by grazing animals causes nitrate poisoning which can be lethal.



Gorse is highly flammable, volatile noxious weed that poses an imminent threat of catastrophic fires.



Yellow Flag Iris is poisonous and toxic to most livestock.



Blackberry is common throughout the County and can be found along roadsides, in woodlands, pastures, riparian areas, diches, and tencerows.



Old Man's beard is an aggressive climbing vine that can climb over and smother native vegetation, including whole groves of mature trees.



Creeping buttercup, the entire plant is toxic (sap, flowers, seeds, leaves) but the greatest concentration is in the yellow flowers.



English/Atlantic ivy is a fast growing vine that swallows trees and is prone to falling during drastic weather patterns.

# Technical & Financial Resources for Landowners

# **Coos Soil & Water Conservation District**

Caley Sowers ~ District Manager 379 North Adams Street Coquille, OR 97423 541.396.6879

# <u>USDA ~ Natural Resource Conservation</u> <u>Service</u>

Dave Ferguson ~ District Conservationist 382 North Central Blvd, Coquille, OR 97423 541.824.8091

# <u>Curry County Soil & Water Conservation</u> <u>District</u>

94181 4th Street Gold Beach, OR 97444 541.247.2755

# <u>Oregon Department of Agriculture -</u> Natural Resource Division

635 Capital Street NE Salem, OR 97301-2532 503.986.4700

## **Oregon State University Extension Service**

Cassie Bouska ~ Extension Agriculture 631 Alder Street Myrtle Point, or 97458 541.572.5263

# **Coos Watershed Association**

Haley Lutz ~ Executive Director 186 N 8th Street Coos Bay, OR 97420 541.888.5922

# **Coquille Watershed Association**

Melaney Dunne ~ Executive Director 309 North Central Blvd. Coquille, OR 97423 541.396.2541

### **Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership**

Mike Mader ~ Director PO Box L Lakeside, OR 97449 541.759.2414

### **Oregon Department of Forestry**

63612 5th Road Coos Bay, OR 97420 541.267.4136

# **Coos County Water Resources Department**

District 19 Water Master 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. 100

# **Coos/Curry CREP Tech**

Barbara Grant 541.396.4323 ext . 106

# **Bureau of Land Management**

1300 Airport Lane North Bend, OR 97459 541.756.0100

# **Oregon Department of Environmental Quality**

Bryan Duggan ~ Basin Specialist 381 North 2nd Street Coos Bay, OR 97420 541.269.2721 ext. 234

### **Oregon Department of Environmental Quality**

Don Yon ~ Coastal Zone Management 811 SW 6th Avenue Portland, OR 97204 503.229.5994

### **Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife**

63538 Boat Basin Road PO Box 5003 Charleston, OR 97420 541.888.5515

# **Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**

Mark Grenbemer 221 West Stewart Avenue - Suite 201 Salem, OR 97501-3647 541.776.6010 ext. 231

# **Coos County Planning Department**

Jill Rolfe ~ Planner 225 North Adams Street Coquille, OR 97423 541.396.3121 ext. 210

# History of Coos Soil & Water Conservation District

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

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 safe guard water quality, the beneficial uses of water resources, and provide best management practices for water quality concerns. The plan also includes the basins of Ten Mile Lakes, Four Mile Creek and Two Mile 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 AgWQMP 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 Mission Statement**

Coos SWCD helps landowners and managers plan and apply conservation practices that conserve water, maintain soil health and productivity, enhance wildlife habitat, and improve watershed function. SWCD serves as a central hub by helping landowners and land 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 encourage good land stewardship.

# **Function of Coos Soil & Water Conservation District**

The function of the Coos Soil and Water Conservation District is to make technical, financial, and educational resources available to local landowners and to assist in any way so they achieve their conservation goals. The Coos Soil and Water Conservation District building is located at 379 North Adams Street in Coquille, Oregon. Office hours are 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday. Stop by to talk with our staff about financial assistance, farming practices, water quality, herbicides, or any agricultural needs that you may have. Our staff is available to all citizens, landowners, and any professionals in the natural resource field. We are a non-regulatory agency, able to assist landowners with financial and/or technical assistance throughout Coos County. We also coordinate with other agencies to provide assistance and education to landowners so they are able to receive the most up to date options available to implement good conservation management, comply with environmental regulations and endangered species act requirements, and be good land stewards. Stop by or call us at 541.396.6879 to set up an appointment to discuss your needs.



# A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCE

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# **COMMUNITY PARTNERS!**

### **FEDERAL**

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

USDA, Farm Service Agency (FSA)

USDA, US Forest Service (USFS)

USDOI, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
USDD, Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

# **OREGON**

Department of Agriculture (ODA)

Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO)

Oregon State University Extension Service

Department of Forestry (ODF)

Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Department of State Lands (DSL)

Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD)

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)

# **COOS COUNTY**

**Board of Commissioners** 

**Planning Commission** 

**County Forester** 

**Drainage District Chairmen** 

County Weed Advisory Board

**County Road Department** 

### **TRIBES**

Coquille Indian Tribe

Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Siuslaw, and Lower Umpqua

# **BASIN**

Coquille Watershed Association Coos Watershed Association Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership

# **ACCOUNTANT**

Coquille Valley Accounting (CVA)

John Fandel

Seth Fandel

# **PORTS**

Port of Bandon
Port of Coquille
Port of Coos Bay

