



Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, May 20th 2026

Attendees

Directors: Scott Hendy, Diana Woodward, David Briggs | **Employees:** Maggie Begoun, Cindy Bright

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, David Briggs at 4:00pm.

Planning Workshop - (Annual Work Plan & FY26-27 Budget Attached)

Budget - Needs Unrestricted/Restricted numbers corrected, all else looks good. Similar numbers to last year besides the payments for the FY24-25 AUP and the FY 25-26 AUP. Note on Unrestricted/Restricted vs. Checking/LGIP account: There is usually a mix of both unrestricted and restricted funds distributed to both accounts. The checking doesn't just hold the unrestricted at any given time - in fact it usually holds our capacity fund payments which are technically restricted. Any grant funds = restricted.

AWP - Changes reflected and highlighted in the AWP document attached. Mostly new additions to the plan, while a few items like CREP support and FFA soil judging were removed.

Other conversation:

- Board & staff would like to host a **project tour** Spring 2027 to see 3-4 projects throughout the county.

- Federal money that passes through OWEB requires **cultural surveys** to be completed before work begins. Dir. Hendy's survey was completed and goes through a lot of detail and history.

Dir. Briggs asks if the CCTribe does cultural surveys. The staff answers no, they don't - likely due to capacity issues. They used to but now a certified survey required a masters degree. The board would like the staff to find a way to help the tribe do these cultural surveys instead.

Action Item: Board & Staff to reach out to CCTribe.



-Dr. Briggs asks about the location of the **2nd SIA**. Bright answers that they're still consulting but it is likely to be the S. Myrtle watershed or the Cow Creek watershed. Dir. Briggs asks if it makes more sense to instead put it in the Canyonville watershed to the west, as this may 1) be better for connectivity to the first SIA and 2) the board is familiar with many of the landowners in that area which may help with the outreach.

Action Item: Begoun to provide maps of current and potential future SIAs to the board for consideration.

-Water Resource Department will be holding a **rulemaking open house** May 27, 2026, 6 - 8 P.M. @the Roseburg Public Library Ford Room regarding new well rules, wat hauling, exempt uses, etc. There may changes to rules regarding Beaver Dam Analogs as well.

-Dir. Briggs would like to see the staff's hours increase back to 40 hours a week at least temporarily to help get work done. Begoun's only concern is the month-to-month cash flow. Pietrzak notes the 2nd SIA work can be backbilled all the way to July 1 2025.

Action Item: Begoun to provide the board a document showing what the increase in salary would mean for our budget, and if it is feasible with the incoming grants / backbilling of grants.

Agency Report:

Beth Pietrzak (ODA): The planning & engagement meeting for the 2nd SIA specifically targeting partners for their input will be **Tuesday, June 23rd 1-3PM @ Roseburg ODFW Office**. Many agencies will be in attendance and Pietrzak would love for the board directors to be there as well. After the decision is made on where the 2nd SIA will be located with the help of these partners, ODA will conduct remote GIS and a public road field evaluation. From there the SWCD submits for their guaranteed SIA Technical Assistance grant by November 2026 and it would come online by January 2027.

The SIA TA grant is now capped at \$100k (opposed to the previous \$125k). The extra \$25k was moved toward the SIA restoration grants that have increased to a cap of \$30k (previously \$15k). These can easily cover more of Bright's salary.

Work will continue in the current S. Umpqua SIA and restoration grants can continue to be applied for there as well. ODA will be looking at the S. Umpqua SIA in late June to make some evaluations on its progress and share with the DSWCD board their findings.

Pietrzak shares a quick powerpoint that was shared at the Connect Conference this past Spring highlighting DSWCD's SIA success story.



Approval of Minutes

Motion: Dir. Woodward motions to approve the minutes of the April Board Meeting & Workshop.

Discussion: Annual meeting will be June 17th, 4PM @ NRCS office before our scheduled June Board meeting.

For: Woodward, Briggs, Hendy | **Against:** N/A. | **Absent:** Estill, Epp | **Abstain:** N/A.

The motion passed.

Financial & Admin Report – Please see attached reports.

Documents presented to the board:

April Expense Report, April QuickBooks Reports, 26-27 Draft Budget

QBO Reports: Still need to update deferred revenue. This is something the bookkeeper has to manually enter each month. The deferred revenue is basically any grant funds that we're holding onto as an advance - this is located under our "liabilities." Other liabilities include the DCWAB's fund that we fiscally manage for them.

AUP: Our auditor has been working on it. Most recently they asked the bookkeeper to update a few things before they continue. This includes allocating items labeled as "Ask Accountant," "Unapplied Cash Deposit," & "Reimbursements." These issues might be from our previous bookkeepers. Our current bookkeeper promised to do this by the end of the week and Begoun will help where she can. Anything that we can't figure out, hopefully our bookkeeper can request the Auditor to make a journal entry about.

Weeds Work: Dir. Briggs asks what the **blackberries at NBHMA** being sprayed with and why they're being sprayed this Spring instead of Fall. The contractors are using Garlon 3A (triclopyr) to get at the very least a top kill, even if it isn't translocating to the roots (as it does better in the fall) because the BLM plans to conduct a prescribed burn in that area this Fall. Begoun notes that the BLM has a Pesticide Use document that has all their requirements for spraying each year, and Begoun consults both with the BLM and ODA on the best management practices for each season. Contractors are out on the west side of NBHMA currently cut/stumping English hawthorn with imazapyr.

Dir. Briggs asks what's going on with the **SWCD's popcornflower site**. Begoun notes that USFWS occasionally emails noting that they think they will have funds to treat weeds, but it never seems to work out. Begoun reiterates that ODA is actually the authority on whether or not the SWCD is held liable for the protection of that popcornflower population. From our previous meeting with them, they may choose to deem the SWCD liable for harm to the population if we were to try and sell the property to a private landowner that breaks the conservation agreement. However, lack of weed treatment at the site due to the district's low capacity will not be seen as harmful.



Begoun suggests that the district does try to go for a weeds grant to get the weeds treated and make an effort to help the population while it's in our hands. This may be possible if the SWCD is deemed the county's Weeds Authority by the commissioners and therefore qualified for ODA's County Weed Grant that allows organizations to receive funds to treat "lower classified" weeds such as hawthorn.

Begoun clarifies that many of the higher classified weeds on ODA's list are ones that are actually small enough populations that they may be able to be eradicated. Therefore things like hawthorn and blackberry which are ubiquitous throughout the county actually get classified as lower priority. We should have luck with applying to treat these weeds because they are for the protection of federally listed sensitive species.

Dir. Briggs asks if groups like the local FFAs can do work there as well. Begoun says yes, but we would need to get **insurance for volunteers**. The board is very interested in this.

Action Item: Begoun to get a quote from insurance agent on how much of a cost increase adding volunteers, especially youth volunteers, would be.

Dir. Briggs asks about the status of **Patterson's Curse and woolly distaff thistle**. Begoun notes that as of last season, only 9 or so Patterson's Curse plants were found over only two sites (RFP & KBar Ranch) and that woolly distaff thistle was only found in on 2 net acres of a total 5k acres surveyed. Both have a 99%+ reduction over the 20 year course of this project. Begoun does think there may be more woolly distaff thistle throughout the county though than is known. Last year outreach mail-outs were sent to the Dixonville area, and if there is money left over this year she would like to send them to the Winchester/Wilbur area.

Conservation Technician Report – Please see attached report.

NRCS - Bright locked out of computer. Working with them to get her back in.

MURCAT - Middle Umpqua River Coho Action Team kicking off their partnership meetings and beginning the process of creating their Strategic Action Plan.

DEQ - Public comment available now for the Umpqua Temperature TMDL changes.

SIA Monitoring - Some creeks are already dried and under the ground therefore cannot be monitored. Monitoring is supposed to occur April - September.

BDA - Ground may already be too hard, contractor ended up breaking a post trying to get it in. Alternative options are being explored with ODFW. Bright will explore rock weirs for the future.

Agromony Training - This is the NRCS Soil Survey Technical Service Provider training that certifies Bright to do soil surveys for NRCS in the future.



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541-900-0354
dswcd.org

Bland Branch - Three phases, three projects through the SIA small restoration grants. Tors Ranch (Spencer). Bright is doing bank shaping, plantings, fencing, etc. They've been pulling tons of plastic, garbage, etc out of the banks from the previous grow operations.

Conclusion of Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05pm.

The board will be meeting at **4:00pm** for the **FY24-25 Annual Meeting** which will be followed by the **regularly scheduled board meeting** on **Wednesday, June 17th** @ **NRCS Roseburg**.

Submitted by Maggie Begoun for Diana Woodward, District Secretary/Treasurer.

**Douglas Soil And Water Conservation District
Budget 2026-2027**

Checking Account July 1 2026	\$	45,000.00	Unrestricted - \$25,000
LGIP Account July 1 2026	\$	160,000.00	Restricted - \$205,000

Resource (Inflows):

Project Income - Federally Funded	\$	189,000.00	GNA + MIT + Pumpchance
Project Income - State Funded	\$	389,000.00	Class A Weeds + Restoration Grants + Small Grants + New SIA
Project Income - Other Sources	\$	7,500.00	UNPP NWL
Project Expense Reimbursement	\$	-	
Donations	\$	-	
Interest Income	\$	7,200.00	

Total Deposits	\$	585,200.00	
Amount Available for Appropriation	\$	790,200.00	

Charges to Appropriations (Outflows):

Personnel Services			
Wages (+Tax, Fringe)	\$	189,840.00	
Worker's Compensation Ins.	\$	800.00	
Total Personal Services	\$	190,640.00	
Materials & Services			
Legal/Audit Fees	\$	27,000.00	Lawyer fee + 25-26 & 24-25 AUPs
Advertising	\$	75.00	
Bookkeeping	\$	4,500.00	
Contracted Services	\$	250,000.00	Project Work, Grant Writer
Dues & Membership	\$	750.00	
Insurance (Liabilty + Vehicle)	\$	3,600.00	
Materials	\$	75,000.00	Project Materials
Monitoring	\$	-	
Office Supplies	\$	1,000.00	
District Vehicle	\$	1,500.00	
Staff Travel & Training	\$	5,000.00	
Telephone	\$	1,236.00	
Rent (Storage)	\$	1,140.00	
Other Utilities	\$	3,323.00	
Total Materials & Services	\$	374,124.00	

IRS	\$	118,800.00	
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Total Charges to Appropriations	\$	683,564.00	
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End of Year Total	\$	106,636.00	
Checking Account June 30 2027	\$	36,336.00	Unrestricted - \$20,000
LGIP Account June 30 2027	\$	70,300.00	Restricted - \$186,636

Date: _____

District Chair Signature: _____

Possibly additional grants:

Oak Habitat FIP (~few \$mil), Oak Engagement (\$90k), NBHMA Restoration (~\$150k)
PFA Grant (\$120k), County Weeds (~\$40k)

Douglas Soil And Water Conservation District									
Apr-26									
Statement Summary									
			Unrestricted	Restricted	DO (25-27)	SOW (25-27)	SIA (23-25)	ODA Weeds "A" 2025	Weaver SG
LGIP Account April 1st	\$	160,544.62							
Checking Account April 1st	\$	24,802.79	\$ 27,948.72	\$ 157,398.69	\$ (11,869.89)	\$ (516.69)	\$ 13,835.55	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 311.54
April Deposits:									
SIA	\$	-							
319 Grant (DEQ)	\$	-							
ODA Capacity Grant	\$	25,290.50			\$ 16,000.00	\$ 9,290.50			
ODA State Weed Board	\$	-							
BLM	\$	5,000.00							
OWEB	\$	-							
DCWAB	\$	-							
Interest Earned	\$	1.77	\$ 1.77	\$ 527.77					
Refund	\$	-							
Transfer	\$	-							
Total Checking Deposits	\$	30,292.27							
April Debits:									
Transfers	\$	-							
Personnel Services									
Wages	\$	9,746.23			\$ (2,481.96)	\$ (4,313.16)	\$ (998.84)		
PERS Retirement	\$	2,165.51			\$ (551.47)	\$ (958.34)	\$ (221.93)		
Payroll Taxes	\$	4,089.61			\$ (1,041.45)	\$ (1,809.84)	\$ (419.12)		
Worker's Compensation Ins.	\$	-							
Total Personal Services	\$	16,001.35							
Materials & Services									
Bank Fees	\$	17.33	\$ (17.33)						
Accounting & Legal	\$	600.00				\$ (600.00)			
Advertising	\$	-							
Contracted Services	\$	10,161.92					\$ (425.40)		
Dues & Membership	\$	-							
Insurance	\$	-							
Materials	\$	780.50				\$ (330.50)			
Monitoring	\$	-							
Office Supplies	\$	-							
Office Rent	\$	95.00				\$ (95.00)			
Staff Travel & Training	\$	177.86				\$ (177.86)			
Telephone	\$	103.28				\$ (103.28)			
Utilities	\$	721.98				\$ (21.98)			
Total Materials & Services	\$	12,657.87							
Total Checking Charges	\$	28,659.22	\$ (17.33)		\$ (4,074.88)	\$ (8,409.96)	\$ (2,065.29)	\$ -	\$ -
Grant Balances					\$ 55.24	\$ 363.85	\$ 11,770.26	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 311.54
Checking Account April 30th	\$	26,435.84						CLOSED	
LGIP Account April 30th	\$	161,072.39						Match for 2026	
			Unrestricted	Restricted					
			\$ 48,275.72	\$ 139,232.51					

Fund Balance										
	Applegate SG	DCWAB	Beals Trib SG	Bland Branch SG	Fall Creek (Rest.)	BLM GNA + MIT	SURCAT	DERBY	UNPP NWL	
\$	(1,069.67)	\$ 2,226.01	\$ (536.50)	\$ (349.31)	\$ (905.63)	\$ 10,630.59	\$ (569.87)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ (1,141.30)	

Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District

2026-2027 Annual Work Plan



Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District is a local government of the State of Oregon formed under ORS 568 to 210 ORS 568.890.

Mission Statement: To advance the management of land and water by aiding in the conservation and restoration of our natural resources.

We advance our mission by providing technical, financial, and educational resources to local natural resource managers (ranchers, farmers, industrial timber owners, small acreage landowners, rural residents, public land managers) within the district boundaries in Douglas County, OR.

26-27 Priority Natural Resource Issues

Water Quality	Water Availability	Wildfire Management
a. Improve on Bacteria, Sediment, Nutrients, Metals/Toxins based on ODA's Umpqua Basin Agricultural Water Quality Management Plan	a. Create Beaver Dam Analogs b. Improve Spring Developments c. Use of off channel livestock watering facilities	a. Increase Water Availability b. Reduce Fuels c. Encourage Prescribed Burning d. Maintain farm & fire ponds
Fish Habitat	Wildlife Habitat	Soil Conservation
a. Add in stream structure b. Increase fish access/ Reduce fish barriers c. Increase cold water refugia	a. Increase habitat for riparian/beaver/ pollinators/migratory birds species b. Use uplands/grass filters c. Increase wetlands / floodplain reconnection	a. Help Streambank Erosion/stabilization b. Improve Upland Stabilization (Livestock Mgt & Forest Mgt) d. Increase invasive weed management

26-27 Priority Community Provisions

1. Education	2. Technical Assistance for Landowners
a. Direct Technical Assistance to Landowners b. Outreach Booths c. Workshops/Tours d. Educational material e. Website	a. Site Visits/Resource guidance b. Surveying / Monitoring c. Project Development d. Project Management e. Assist with funding sources
3. Partnership	4. Economic Stimulus
a. Work with Local, State, & Federal Agencies b. Work with Non-Profit and Volunteer Organizations	a. Project Funding via Grant Writing a. District Employment b. Contracted Work

26-27 District Priority Areas:

South Umpqua Strategic Implementation Area (SIA #1) & Upcoming, New SIA (#2)

SIA #1: Days Creek, Shively Creek, O'Shea Creek, St. John Creek & SIA #2: TBD

Agricultural Water Quality Projects (Outside of SIA) in Progress

Other watersheds in Douglas SWCD not meeting the Umpqua Basin Agricultural Water Quality Management Plan

Cooperative Weeds Management Areas

Class A Noxious Weed Areas, Umpqua Oak Restoration Priority Habitats, and additional areas highlighted by the DC-CWMA Partnership

26-27 District Priority Objectives

Objective 1. Work to Improve Watershed Health & Agricultural Viability through Technical Assistance.

Key Partners: ODA, NRCS, OSU Extension Service, Douglas County, ODFW, USFWS, PUR, ODF, DFPA, DEQ, NOAA, SURCP, Beaver Coalition, Salmon Coalition, and the South Umpqua River Coho Action Team

- A. Provide direct support to local landowners through voluntary site visits as appropriate and staff able.
 - 1. Provide technical recommendations to improve resource concerns.
 - 2. Provide information that is appropriate for the application.
- B. Support landowner participation in programs (as appropriate for the needs of the landowner and the District)
 - 1. Present funding options to private landowners as needed.
 - 2. When not possible or cost effective to work within a fund, direct landowners toward other program/agency representatives (
- C. Assist with project design, completion and monitoring on private lands that conserve natural resources, improve watershed health, soil conservation, and promote agricultural sustainability.
 - 1. Participate in programs that meet the annual and long-term goals of the district. Focus projects on above listed priorities, particularly in the Strategic Implementation Area (South Umpqua).
 - 2. Provide technical support at an appropriate level to those individuals not interested in receiving grant/program funding.
 - 3. Engage partner agencies on the behalf of a willing landowner to provide further technical assistance (
 - 4. Assist ODA with complaints as appropriate.
 - 5. Write grants that support project implementation.

Objective 2. Work with Other Agencies and Organizations to Promote Common Interests

- A. Work with the Oregon Department of Agriculture on Agricultural Water Quality Programs & Weeds Programs.
 - 1. Whenever appropriate, be present during ODA site visits within the Douglas SWCD.
 - 2. Assist with the Biennial Review of the Umpqua Basin Agriculture Water Quality Area Management Plan.
 - 3. Help with any projects relating to the South Umpqua Strategic Implementation Area.
 - 4. Work with ODA on the SIA monitoring team and monitoring protocols for water quality monitoring.
 - 5. Focus district funds toward landowners in the chosen SIA for improvement of the agricultural water quality there.
 - 6. Work with ODA on Class A Noxious Weeds treatments and other projects resulting from Oregon State Weed Board funding.

B. Work with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on the fish and wildlife aspects of projects.

1. Seek input and permits from ODFW staff on projects whenever applicable.
2. Seek funding through ODFW when appropriate.

C. Provide support to Douglas County and its affiliates.

1. Provide fiscal management for Douglas County Weed Advisory Board.
2. Act as the county-designed Weeds Authority
3. Provide technical assistance and input when requested.
4. Represent DSWCD at the annual DC Fair.
5. When possible, partner on projects that promote water quality. and weeds removal projects.

D. Continue our working relationship with USDA-NRCS.

1. Evaluate any appropriate role the District may have in supporting USDA programs.
2. Refer landowners to USDA whenever appropriate.
3. Support County Working Lands Conference, Support Soil Survey Program, Support Regenerative Agriculture Program

E. Continue/expand our working relationship with the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

1. Continue to work with agency representatives to implement projects utilizing Partners for Wildlife Program funding.
2. Coordinate projects utilizing specialized technical professionals from USFWS whenever appropriate.
3. Work with USFWS and ODA on management of the Rough Popcorn Flower population at the District's Southside Road property and The Nature Conservancy Popcorn Swale property.

F. Continue to expand our working relationship with Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers.

1. Continue to develop joint projects.
2. Utilize Council staff whenever appropriate.
3. Participate in the Umpqua Basin Partnership in the development of the Umpqua Basin Action Plan.
4. Work with staff in the water quality monitoring of the SIA area.
5. Work with staff on county-wide Pumpchance monitoring and restoration efforts.

G. Continue work with OSU Extension Service to provide Douglas County with technical assistance and education.

1. Partner on educational workshops.
2. Partner on outreach events i.e. booth at a community event.
3. As possible/appropriate develop and partner on a landowner assist program.

H. Continue and foster work with other groups including but not limited to:

1. The Beaver Coalition, The Salmon Coalition, South Umpqua Rural Community Partnership,
2. Oregon (Youth) Conservation Corps, Umpqua Native Plant Partnership, Douglas Small Woodlands Assoc.

3. Dept. of Environmental Quality, Oregon Dept. of Forestry, Bureau of Land Management, Cow Creek Tribe,
4. Douglas Forest Protection Agency, Cities of Douglas County, USDA-USFS

I. Continue work the South and Middle Umpqua River Coho Action Teams

1. Coordinate with the partnerships to collaborate on projects together, highlighting the importance of agricultural lands and water quality.
2. Support strategic action plans and grant applications efforts (Including Focused Investment Partnership grant).

J. Continue work with the Umpqua Oak Partnership

1. Coordinate with the UOP partnership to collaborate on projects together, highlighting the importance of noxious weed removal and education in oak habitats.
2. Support strategic action plans, grant applications efforts, particularly with the Focused Investment Partnership grant.

K. Continue work with the Douglas County Livestock Association

1. Support and help grow the Spring Livestock Conference & Ag Expo
2. Represent the district at their meetings
3. Help grow their capacity through grant writing and outreach efforts.

Objective 3. Work to Improve Watershed Health & Agricultural Viability through Outreach & Education

Key Partners: ODA, NRCS, OSU Extension Service, UNPP, DEQ, Douglas County, Oregon Youth Conservation Corps, Umpqua Oak Partnership, Pacific Birds, DCLA

A. Develop Outreach Materials that are Accessible to a Variety of Diverse Landowners

1. Develop website to easily show and provide contact, program, project, partnership, and event information.
2. Distribute information through appropriate locations (meetings, workshops, mailings, etc.).
3. Develop thematic Power Point presentations for public presentations at workshops, conferences, and seminars.
4. Expand all displays and create interactive materials to engage the public.

B. Conduct Educational Workshops/Tours on Current Issues, Technologies, and Practices in Agricultural Water Quality Management and Invasive Species Management.

1. Partner with agencies and local organizations to educate local landowners about manure management, mediating streambank erosion, oak habitat restoration, rotational grazing practices, soil conservation, and much more.
2. Partner with agencies and local organizations to educate local landowners about invasive species management techniques.
3. Promote sound resource management practices that align with ODA rules and regulations.

4. Make presentations geared toward youth groups about natural resource issues. Provide training that helps to certify (youth) conservation corps in a variety of environmental specializations.
 5. Work with and encourage involvement of interest groups and organizations.
 6. Help show the connection between appropriate conservation practices and profitable changes.
- C. Host Booths/Tables/Kiosks at Local Events
1. Communicate effectively and provide accurate, relevant information that is accessible to a variety of diverse landowners and stakeholders in the community.
 2. Booths to be held at Douglas County Livestock Association Spring Livestock Conference and Ag expo, Glide Wildflower Show, Butterfly & Blooms, Farmer's Markets, Youth Ag Show, County Fair, and many other community events as appropriate.
- D. Attend community-based meetings as appropriate to stay informed about local viewpoints and needs. These include but are not limited to: Producer groups, local advisory committees, livestock advisory boards, farm bureau committee, etc.
- E. Increase Public Awareness of District Activities
1. Publicize projects ongoing and completed by the District.
 2. Create lawn signs for landowners wishing to advertise the district's restoration efforts on their properties.
 3. Invite public on tours to completed project areas to showcase resource conservation whenever possible.
 4. Assist people to understand the similarities/differences between SWCDs, Watershed Councils, ODA, FSA, & NRCS.
 5. Circulate pre-printed literature produced by each agency whenever possible.
 6. Advertise board meetings and other events related to district activities.

Objective 4. Improve Efficiency of the District Operations & Expand Programs

- A. Investigate stable long-term funding solutions for District operations.
- B. Offer training opportunities to assist staff and board directors in human resources, risk management, project development/management, safety protocols, certifications and more.
- C. Organize all financial records, reconcile any outstanding issues relating to district finances, complete 25-26 audit or financial review report.
- D. Continue to update district policies and procedures.
- E. Seek funding to expand current programs and create new ones to further assist in the District goals.
- F. Continue to research solutions to rebuild the weed program and an herbicide cost-share program.
- G. Consider the development of a volunteer program.

May 2026 Admin Report (Updated 5/15)

May Board Meeting:

5/20/26 - 4pm - 6pm at Roseburg NRCS

I'll be taking time of May 8-13th for my mom visiting. I will still be reachable by phone or email - Don't hesitate to reach out.

Annual Work Plan - [Please review the FY26-27 annual work plan.](#) I made some suggested edits. Please have your thoughts gathered on the AWP for our meeting. We must have a new one ready to go by the end of June (alongside our FY26-27 budget and proof of our FY24-25 annual meeting)

AUP - Grimstad actively working on it. They had a lot of questions on the QuickBooks for our bookkeeper, primarily about the stuff our previous bookkeeper messed up and how it was reconciled.

IRS - Offer in Compromise #2 was received by the IRS & and they sent a confirmation letter to Amity (our bookkeeper) who let me know **they expect to get started on it in July.** We will just have to wait until then when they assign an agent to know our next steps, and the status of our first Offer.

[Don't forget to review the draft budget & financials for this month!](#)

Grants Project Updates -

GNA (CWMA)

- Sent out our first CWMA newsletter, happy to forward it to any interested board members.
- Glide Wildflower Show was another success. A lot of fun conversations with the public and opportunities to educate on identification and treatment.
- Discussing viability of a local gravel pit weed free certification program with BLM/county.
- Next meeting will probably be late summer/early fall.

MIT Fund (N. Bank)

- Spraying of blackberries on the east side 4/28/26 - 5/8/26
- Putting together a native seed procurement list with the help of their botanist.
- Cut/Stumping hawthorn 5/18-5/22 (possibly longer)!

Class A Weeds

- Grant awarded, grant agreement signed, and first advancement received.

- Contractors did some Patterson's Curse work in April but will start the big haul on Distaff Thistle in June.

Pumpchance

- Meeting with BLM on 5/6/26 to kick things off again. Supposedly the BLM state office approved the grant paperwork finally, but I still don't have a grant agreement or funds.
- I started planning out routes for us to drive this summer and they are preparing the data collection software. I am also putting together a procurement list of items that I will need to by a soon as the Grant Agreement is sent to us.

OWEB NWL

- Ford's Pond was going to be sprayed, particularly for meadowknapweed and blackberry. Because of its wetland status, this is delayed until further notice. Tentative on whether spraying will be the best option for the future.

UOP

- Focused Investment Partnership Grant (FIP) will be a lot of work for the next few months. This is a grant that brings millions to Douglas County specifically for activities outlined in UOP's Strategic Action Plan. We have partner meetings throughout May to figure out budgets and application logistics. Next couples meetings: 5/6/26 & 5/18/26.
- Our landowner oak habitat engagement grant ranked #1 in the region for the engagement category! That would be \$40k for my salary if awarded (Won't know for sure until July 29th)

May 2026 Cindy K. Bright
Conservation Technician/Project Manager

NRCS

The work group meeting did not have as many as I hoped but several agencies did show up. I start the Agronomy training June 1st and will go on until June 19th. It starts with online courses each week released on Sunday nights with quizzes due at the end of the week. I will be able to work on them in the evening and or Fridays.
I'm still having NRCS computer issues and am completely locked out of my computer. Hopefully Vernon can fix it soon.

SIA/ODA:

I met with Beth to discuss the next SIA. They will be working analyzing Ag lands in the Myrtle Creek and Cow Creek watersheds to narrow down the best option. I need to go do some ground truthing to see what kind of Ag lands are in those watersheds and the shape of the riparian areas.

SURCAT:

We have been submitting proposals for projects in the SURCAT focus areas. I submitted proposals to be in the FIP grant in the Days Creek watershed.

MURCAT:

The Elk coalition and wild Salmon center have begun meetings to assess the middle Umpqua for another target area.

DEQ:

We have narrowed down addressing comments for the rule change. The next meeting TBA.

ODA/Complaints:

No new complaints.

OWEB:

I submitted the Doerner phase two project for an OWEB small grant. It appears it will be funded but have not heard back yet on the final discission.

ODFW:

No work on if the other grant source will fund the SIA BDA project. Bill and his volunteer crew have been building nice bird nest boxes to install in our project area.

DERBY grant:

I'm still looking for a good BDA source. Apparently, most mills have contracts for large purchasers. And I'm still playing tag with the Yoncalla mill.

PUR:

SIA water quality monitoring has begun but some creeks are already going under.

Outreach:

DCLA:

I'm working on a proposal to go for a grant with the permission of DCLA to help fund and the Ag show. I will submit a proposal to the board for a vote for me to proceed. I would very much like to build a Douglas County Ag show to reach the public to elevate awareness of all things Ag in our County.

Kanipe Park:

I'm work with the group the help find funding for a possible piolet project to virtually fence livestock out of the creeks.

Training:

No new training other than the NRCS Agronomy training over next month.

May/June work plan:

I'll be spending a lot of time on getting new projects started and working on small grant project proposals to submit by the end of June.

Projects in progress at a glance, Ag water quality projects:

Pheasant Creek: I have a new project to develop with more landowners interested. First, I need to get back out to site with ODFW for stream input for possible BDA placements.

Pheasant Creek_Hackett/Ducan:

Project completed but follow up on BDAs will need to be done. The beaver dam washed out, and so additional willow stakes will be added to the BDA sites. The bridge will be installed this summer so phase II planning below the bridge will begin.

Morgan Creek_Briggs:

Done except needs bird box installations and updating photo points for reporting.

Elk Creek_Applegate:

The project looks great and the willow, cottonwood and dogwood stakes are sprouting.

Fall Creek_Monarich:

We will follow up with additional planting in the Fall. I referred Jeff to Eric to get willows to plant outside of the project area.

Buckhorn Creek_Hendy:

Cultural survey has been carried out and project to begin after fields are hayed.

Doerner Creek_Gayner:

Waiting for final approval to start.

Little River_Tilcott:

I requested a different contractor bid for the project to get a more realistic cost. Still waiting on bid.

Bennet Creek:

Project area looks great. ODA planning a site visit to review.

Huntley Creek:

Working on proposal to kick start project.

Ag water quality projects in assessment: On hold for now until more information on funding sources and when my time allows. I will review these project area and prioritize which to work on first.

~Callahan X 3, Lookingglass, Riddle Ag ponds. I will be going out to Huntley to reassess what we can do before PUR can do the instream work.

South Umpqua SIA projects:

Weaver Creek_Sherman:

Phase V approved. OWEB working on grant agreements.

Beals creek tributary_Stafford:

Project completed and landowners are very happy with results.

Woods/Days creek_Michaels Ranch LLC:

Did not get approved, but submitting in the SURCAT FIP grant.

Stinger Gulch_Michaels:

Approved and waiting for OWEB contract agreement.

Bland Branch_TorS Ranch LLC:

Phase III approved and waiting for OWEB contract. Phase I in progress and phase II and III fencing begins May 18th.

Tiller Trail Hwy_Three Cluff LLC:

I met with land lessor to discuss alternatives to do project. I need to go out with contractor to site to discuss alternatives. A bit on hold for now.

Days Creek_Arp:

Delayed do to no NRCS design yet but will take out contractor for input.

O'Shea Creek:

Landowner is still out of state and won't be back until July. Then we will meet to discuss creek improvements. Beth with ODA talked with landowner and said he is very interested in doing whatever he can to improve stream conditions.