

**Mid Coast  
Agricultural Water Quality Management Area**  
Biennial Review Report to the Board of Agriculture & ODA Director  
Submitted by the Local Advisory Committee (LAC)



<b>Meeting Date(s):</b> November 8, 2021
<b>LAC Members Present:</b> Richard Huff (chair), Alan Fujishin, Joe Steere, Kevin Carroll, Renee Coxen
<b>Reporting Time Frame:</b> 2020-2021

**PROGRESS MEASUREMENT**

*This was a Light Review; quantitative details related to Measurable Objectives are not reported at Light Reviews.*

Activities (Lincoln and Siuslaw SWCDs)	No.	Discussion
Events That Actively Engage Landowners	10	Tours and workshops: riparian restoration, native plant sale
Landowners Participating in These Events	414	
Landowners Provided Technical Assistance	209	
Site Visits	36	
Conservation Plans Written	0	
Funding Applications Submitted	16	Improved instream conditions, grazing management, plantings, stakeholder engagement, noxious weed control
Funding Applications Awarded	12	

**LAC DISCUSSION**

**Summary of Progress**

- Focus Areas are showing improvements in streamside vegetation over time (albeit slowly).
- SWCDs are doing a great job contacting landowners and implementing projects.
  - o Siuslaw SWCD is working with larger landowners (industrial timber lands with grazed valleys).
  - o Lincoln SWCD is contacting new landowners and rebuilding relationships after several years of staff turnover; their Siletz Focus Area has been helpful in engaging landowners.
- Local monitoring and assessment are good way to showcase successful projects to landowners and partners, for instance, data show that riparian plantings are successful in the Siltcoos Focus Area.
- SWCDs and partners have started some long-term streamside vegetation and stream temperature monitoring projects.

**Impediments**

- NRCS funding in Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) areas has been under-utilized by landowners.
- Landowners are often hesitant to participate in programs because they aren't familiar with the SWCDs and their programs.
- Fencing has been affected by floods, which discourages some landowners from implementing that practice.
- Not enough funding for SWCD staff and project implementation.
- Lincoln SWCD staff turnover has made it hard to generate and maintain trust.
- Lots of small acreage landowners not aware of SWCDs.
- Landowners sometimes inundated by 'help' from multiple partners, which can be confusing.
- Mid-Coast LAC currently has only six members: need more representation from both agricultural landowners and 'balance of interests.'

**Recommended Modifications and Adaptive Management**

- Systematically track improvements in upland conditions and streamside vegetation that can affect water quality.
- Increase effectiveness of CIS program: more effective outreach to landowners, change location of CIS (e.g., to the Strategic Implementation Area), revisit priority resource concerns and prioritize practices.
- Show landowners that the goal is worth the effort with quality data.
- Stakeholder engagement will be pivotal in the next few years; helpful to showcase projects.
- SWCDs can help get word out on new Oregon Department of Forestry rules that will likely reduce sediment and other pollutants sourced from industrial forest lands.
- SWCDs reach out to small acreage landowners, especially those in the 'rural/urban' interface.
- SWCDs and ODA continue to recruit LAC members.
- SWCDs can apply for OWEB Stakeholder Engagement funds.

**COMPLIANCE ACTIONS**

Location	Letter of Compliance	Pre-Enforcement Notification	Notice of Noncompliance	Civil Penalty
Outside SIA(s)	1	2	0	0
Within SIA(s)	0	0	0	0