

DOGAMI OREGON PLAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

July August September 2000

Water Quality Issues:

* Sediment:

DOGAMI Measure 1

Staff completed 300 (estimate) inspections for the three month period. This rate of inspection well exceeds the acceptable rate established in for this measure. Inspections remain the foundation of compliance.

Aerial photography and the digitizing of maps continues to be ahead of schedule with the second generation of photos for western Oregon having begun. The program initiated this effort in response to improving stormwater permit compliance and to acquire for the first time statewide aerial coverage of mine sites every two years. Complaints and non-compliance issues have been minimal over the three month period as expected due for the most part to the lack of rain.

DOGAMI Measure 2

The department initiated a study of the Clackamas River in 1998 to assess impacts to rivers as the result of floodplain mining. Ultimately the permittee donated the sight to Metro, an action for which the River Island Sand and Gravel won the department's Oregon Plan award. The area provides a unique opportunity for post mining study to assess long term changes. The MLR program has continued to study the site "bootstrapping" the effort by recruiting partners to help fund and accomplish the work. This year temperature monitoring was added to the collection of physical channel characteristics data with the help of ODFW. Funding this kind of research is critical to a better understanding of the what happens over time to these sites and thereby providing the state with better information with which to make permitting decisions. Dedicated funding still does not exist for this project but staff continue to find ways to keep this important effort alive.

DOGAMI Measure 3

The awards program will begin the process in October for the 2001 awards.

DOGAMI Measure 4

Two major efforts are well underway on this measure. The Confluence Island project in Eugene has been mentioned here before. The OWEB funded portion of this project is completed, as is the industry funded portion. This work accomplished the initial goal of significantly improving the physical and biological scientific information along the study reach. The McKenzie Watershed Council has submitted a grant proposal for continuation of this unique project. DOGAMI has played and integral role in attracting funding and participating in the development and continuation of this unique partnership of 4 aggregate permittees, state and federal agencies and the McKenzie Watershed Council. This effort is attempting to deal with sophisticated economic, environmental and social issues in the spirit of the Oregon Plan. Future success will in large part depend on the ability to fund this effort

The Rogue Project is similar in some respects to the previous mentioned project in that it is dealing with sophisticated economic, environmental and social issues around relic and current aggregate sites. There are differences as well. There is 1 major permittee, major private sector agricultural interests and private landowners that produce a different challenge for the agencies. DOGAMI'S leadership on this project has had tangible effects in better data in the area but also in that we are seeing quicker responses on the ground

in response to this effort. The effort was the subject of a very positive recent article in the Medford newspaper.

Both these efforts are unique and are very valuable and hopefully will result in a river management plan around these sites. They have difference that go well beyond what we can discuss here. However it will be critical to monitor both of these projects particularly in light of their differences so we can be more efficient and successful in the future.

DOGAMI Measure 5:

DOGAMI continues to work with DEQ to improve our partnership that leads to more effective stormwater permitting which ultimately will reduce sediment runoff from mine sites. In addition the department continues to seek partners to effectively implement the spirit of the Oregon Plan.

UPCOMING WORK:

- **Field inspections will emphasize stormwater.**
- **Aerial photogrametry of western Oregon will be completed as well as the digitizing of eastern Oregon sites photographed last spring. are planning the aerial photography flights for western Oregon**
- **The year 2001 award's program will begin to accept nominations for 2001.**
- **Presentations by the Mined Land Reclamation program to the Oregon Concrete and Aggregate Producers and the Northwest Mining Association on the 4(d) rule, the Oregon Plan and mining**
- **Maintain acceptable levels of inspection and enforcement.**
- **Continue to inform the agencies Governing Board of the efforts of the department to constructively find new ways to participate in the Oregon Plan and insure any appropriate modification of existing measures.**