WALLA WALLA Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Biennial Review Report to the Board of Agriculture & ODA Director



Submitted by the Local Advisory Committee (LAC)

Meeting Date January 27, 2022

LAC Members Present: Dennis Rea, Lance Bullock (small turnout due to it being an online meeting) Reporting Time Frame: Calendar years 2020-2021

PROGRESS MEASUREMENT								
This was a Light Review; quantitative details related to Measurable Objectives are not reported at Light Reviews.								
Activities (Umatilla SWCD, Walla Walla Watershed Council)		Discussion						
Events That Actively Engage Landowners	2	Couse Creek Focus Area, Upper Walla Walla River Habitat Assessment						
Landowners Participating in Active Events		Letters to landowners for access and/ or assistance to small grants						
Landowners Provided Technical Assistance*	2	Riparian. Fencing project						
Site Visits	4	Riparian fence project, Removal of fish barrier (incudes habitat designs)						
Conservation Plans Written	0							
Funding Applications Submitted	4							
Funding Applications Awarded	3	Hydraulic Monitoring in the Upper Walla Walla, North Fork Walla Walla Effectiveness Monitoring, Upper Walla Walla Habitat Effectiveness monitoring						

LAC DISCUSSION

Summary of Progress

- The LAC will continue to work with all agencies to better understand the hydrologic functions of the Walla Walla River and its tributaries after the 2020 spring floods.
- The Walla Walla Watershed Council continues to make Pesticide Stewardship Program improvements by trying to better understand detections that are being sampled in spring in the orchards around Milton-Freewater.

Impediments

• The floods of 2020 were extremely damaging. Local agencies have documented the changes in the river system and are mapping those changes. The time it takes to go through permitting and other regulation requirements takes a long time. The shade measurements made by DEQ before the 2020 floods have now changed and many of the areas now do not meet some proposed shade requirements that the LAC was working towards prior to 2020.

Recommended Modifications and Adaptive Management

Update the assessments being done by Walla Walla Watershed Council and Umatilla SWCD. This includes
updating farming tillage patterns and soil erosions calculations in the Walla Walla Basin. This also includes any
potential erosion and manure runoff from heavy use areas.

ODA COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES										
Location	Cases		Site Visits	Agency Actions						
				Letter of Compliance		Pre-	Notice of	Civil		
	New	Closed		Already in compliance	Brought into compliance	Enforcement Notification	Noncompliance	Penalty		
Outside SIA	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0		
Within SIA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		