Management Area: Upper Mainstem and South Fork John Day River

Meeting Date(s): 1/30/2019

LAC Members Present: Roger Ediger, Dennis Reynolds, Ted Clausen, Joanne Keerins, Mark Webb, Phil St. Clair

Progress Measurement – Measurable Objectives: Warrens Creek Focus Area started in 2015. Assessment = 3.02 acres grass; 2019 milestone = 8.88 acres

Actions/Implementation Summary:

**Outreach and Education:**
Grant SWCD: hosted tours showcasing projects; provided Power Point presentations that highlighted projects; produced newspaper articles featuring restoration projects; met regularly with landowners in the office and on-the-ground to discuss problem areas and potential treatments. Small community word-of-mouth networks continue to bring landowners into the office to seek solutions to their agricultural and water quality problems.

SFJD WC: Beaver Dam Analog workshop, Beaver Restoration Assessment Tool for the John Day Basin, South Fork John Day Coordinated Resource Management Planning, and educational and partner tours.

**Planning and Projects:**
Grant SWCD: 47.5 miles fencing, 35 spring developments, 1 solar powered pump, 1 well stock-water system, 1 pressurized pump station, and 10,000 feet buried pipe replaced four diversions, 3,630 feet open ditch replaced by buried pipe, 4,500 acres noxious weeds treatment with ODFW, 40 large wood and rock structures along 3,500 ft of stream, 180 acres of defensible space treatments around structures and along emergency fire access routes, 1 25-acre meadow restored.

NRCS: 2,100 ft livestock pipeline, 3 spring developments, 1 water well, 5 watering facilities, 937 acres juniper removal, 21 acres cover crop, 214 acres forest stand improvement, 1794 acres herbaceous weed control, 36 acres range planting, 664 acres woody residue treatment, 9,918 ft fence, and 1 high tunnel system.

SFJD WC: upland improvements through spring developments, juniper removal, and/or aspen enhancement (Magic Lantern, Murderers Creek, Rosebud, Izee Allotment, Snow Mountain, West Fork Dry Creek, John Gum, Inshallah); riparian fencing (Izee); Wind Creek Watershed Assessment; Tex Creek Design; Aspen and Spring Inventory; South Fork John Day Collaborative data collection

**Monitoring:**
The Warm Springs Tribes provides pre and post implementation monitoring on all diversion projects completed by Grant SWCD. Projects are monitored for temperature, flow, riparian recovery, channel stabilization, and macroinvertebrates.

SFJD WC: Upper South Fork bioassessment, Upper South Fork water temperature, Bark project area (USFS) groundwater dependent ecosystem, Bark project area (USFS) water temperature, South Fork John Day LiDAR acquisition

**Funding and Grants:**
Grant SWCD: Provided financial and administrative support to the John Day Basin Partnership and its associate OWEB FIP Capacity Grant ($149,613). Received NRCS RCPP grant award ($1,195,999). Successfully submitted 7 grant applications ($2,904,232). Established a CREP Technician to serve both Baker and Grant counties

SFJD WC: OWEB, US Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Charlotte Martin Foundation, Mule Deer Foundation, Oregon Federal Forest Restoration Grant, Western Native Trout Initiative, Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation, Oregon Department of Education, Oregon Department of Agriculture

**Summary of Impediments:**
- ESA consultation process is lengthy and expensive
- Monitoring required as a result of grant funding, but little or no funds for the monitoring
- Obtaining proper permitting to do stream restoration work
- Environmental laws that were developed to initially regulate municipal/residential structural developments are the same for environmental restoration

**Recommendations for Modifications:**
- Have fruitful conversation with state and federal consultation, have them onsite and provide recommendation to the process
- Earmark additional funds for restoration and monitoring
- Streamline permitting process and have a permitting process that is specific to restoration work and completely separate from the permits such as removal/fill, ESA consultation, etc.
- Revamp environmental laws or create waiver for specific environmental restoration action

**DEQ Recommendations:**
- None

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**Total Complaints/Notifications:** 0