

Appendix M

Rogue Basin Report

1. Basin Description

The Rogue Basin in southwestern Oregon consists of five subbasins that drain to the Pacific Ocean: Lower Rogue River, Middle Rogue River, Upper Rogue River, Illinois and Applegate. The subbasins are on the northeastern flank of the Siskiyou Mountains and the western flanks of the Cascade Mountains and total 3.3 million acres (5,156 square miles).

Streams in this watershed provide habitat for a wide variety of cold-water species including Coho salmon, spring Chinook salmon, fall Chinook salmon, summer and winter steelhead, multiple species of resident trout, amphibians and other fish including Pacific lamprey, green sturgeon, white sturgeon, Klamath small-scale sucker, speckled dace, prickly sculpin and others. The Rogue estuary provides important habitat for marine mammals, birds and a wide variety of fish. Shellfish harvesting is not a commercial resource in the Rogue River Estuary. Commercial and recreational fishing in the river, estuary and offshore has been an important economic resource for generations.

Table M-1: 2011 Land use and land cover for each subbasin in the Rogue.

Subbasin	Watershed Area (km2)	% Urban/Roads	% Forest	% Cultivated	% Range/Forest Disturbance	%Other
Applegate	1760.286	4.5	64.9	3.5	26.3	0.8
Illinois	2412.024	3.1	73.0	1.0	22.3	0.5
Lower Rogue	2347.114	4.2	79.6	0.5	14.8	0.9
Middle Rogue	2284.512	11.4	44.7	12.1	31.2	0.7
Upper Rogue	4183.154	1.1	67.8	3.3	26.2	1.5

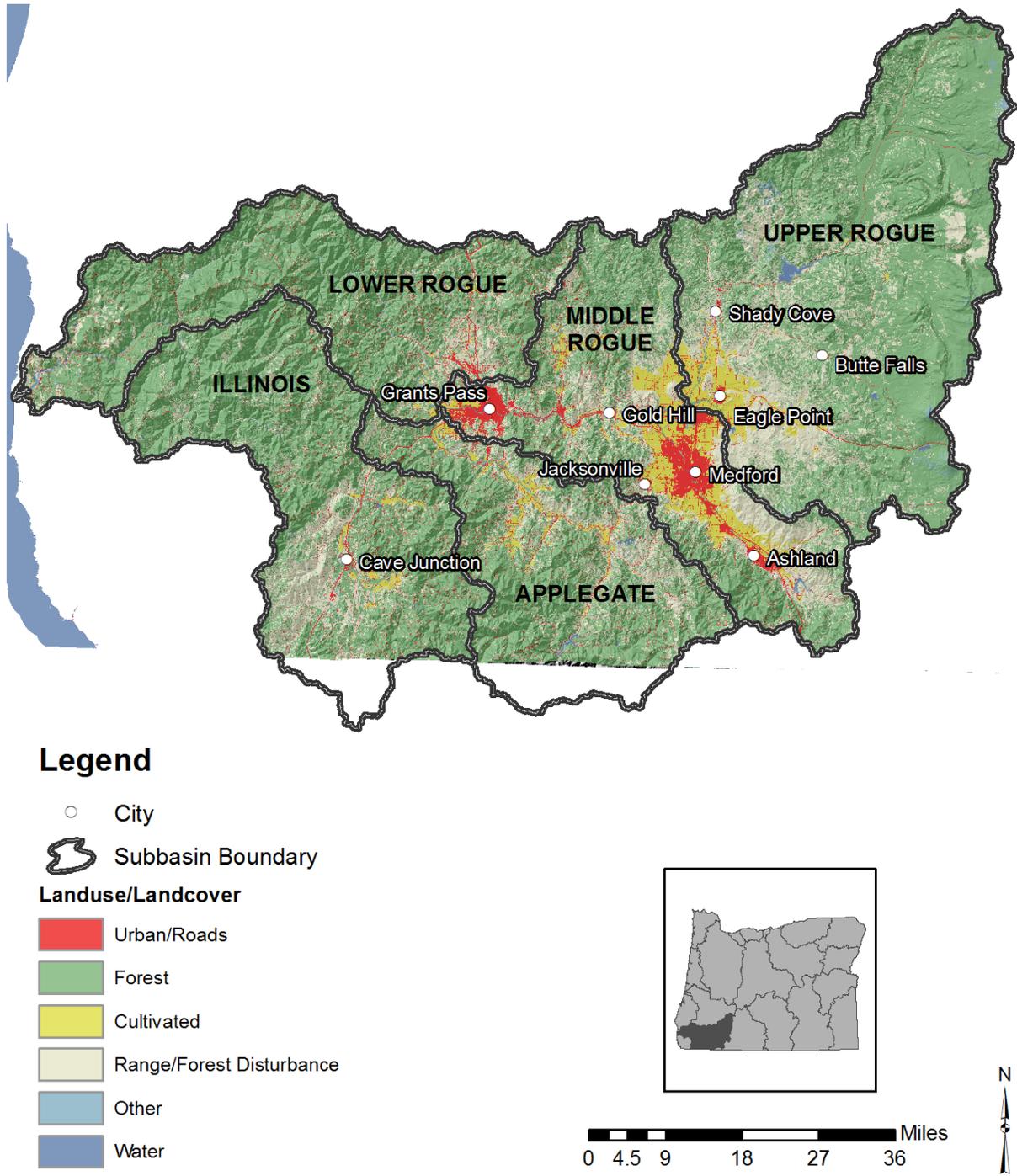


Figure M-1: Land use in the Rogue administrative basin.

1.1 Basin Contacts

Table M-2: Oregon DEQ basin contact.

Administrative Area	DEQ Basin Coordinator
Rogue Basin	Bill Meyers: 541-776-6272: meyers.bill@deq.state.or.us
Rogue Basin	Heather Tugaw: 541-776-6091: tugaw.heather@deq.state.or.us

2. Water Quality Impairments and TMDLs

2.1 Water Quality Impaired Stream Segments

Under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, states, territories and authorized tribes must submit lists of impaired waters. Impaired waters are those that do not attain water quality standards or support all designated uses. The law requires that states establish priority rankings for waters on the lists and develop Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for these waters. Table M-3 identifies the number of Rogue Basin waterbody segments impaired by parameter from the 2012 Integrated Report and the number of segments with approved TMDLs. Sources: [ODEQ](#), [USEPA](#)

Table M-3: Number of impaired stream segments with and without a TMDL as identified in Oregon’s 2012 Integrated Report and Assessment database.

Parameter	Segments without a TMDL	Segments with a TMDL
Ammonia	0	1
Aquatic Weeds Or Algae	6	1
Arsenic	1	0
Biocriteria	1	0
Biological Criteria	24	0
Chlorophyll a	1	0
Dissolved Oxygen	37	11
E. Coli	0	32
Fecal Coliform	1	17
Fish tissue, Mercury	1	0
Lead	1	0
Mercury	6	0
pH	11	4
Phosphorus	0	3
Sedimentation	6	2
Temperature	0	284

Parameter	Segments without a TMDL	Segments with a TMDL
Total Phosphorus	1	0

2.2 Total Maximum Daily Load Watershed Plans

The federal Clean Water Act requires that water pollutant reduction plans, called Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), be developed for water bodies that are listed in Category 5 of the Integrated Report (303(d) List). TMDLs describe the maximum amount of pollutants that can enter the river or stream and still meet water quality standards.

TMDLs take into account the pollution from major sources including discharges from industry and sewage treatment facilities, runoff from farms, forests and urban areas, and natural sources. TMDLs include a margin of safety to account for uncertainty, and may include a reserve capacity that allows for future discharges to a river or stream. DEQ typically develops TMDLs on a watershed, subbasin, or basin level and occasionally at the reach level depending on the type and extent of impairments.

The Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) is the framework for TMDL implementation that is issued by Oregon along with the TMDL (Oregon Administrative Rules 340-042-0040(1)). The TMDL and WQMP serve as a multi-sector plan and provides the blueprint for TMDL related implementation activities. Table M-4 lists the TMDLs that have been approved in the Rogue Basin.

Table M-4: Approved TMDLs in the Rogue Basin and the impairments addressed by those TMDLs.

TMDL Document Name	Impairments Addressed
Applegate Subbasin TMDL and WQMP	Biological Criteria, Sedimentation, Temperature
Bear Creek Watershed TMDL	Dissolved Oxygen, pH
Bear Creek Watershed TMDL	Bacteria (water contact recreation), Sedimentation, Temperature
Lobster Creek Watershed TMDL	Temperature
Lower Sucker Creek TMDL and WQMP	Temperature
Rogue River Basin TMDL	Bacteria (water contact recreation), Temperature
Upper Sucker Creek TMDL and WQMP	Temperature

3. Implementation Highlights

3.1 Section 319 Grants

Federal Section 319(h) funds are provided annually through the EPA to states for the development and implementation of each state's Nonpoint Source Management Program. In Oregon a portion of 319 grant funding is "passed through" to support community or partner projects that address Oregon's nonpoint source program priorities. Generally, DEQ requires grantees to report annually on the progress made

implementing their grant project. This section highlights those outputs and accomplishments reported to DEQ in 2019. Note this section does not identify or include projects proposed and awarded a grant in 2019. Outputs and accomplishments for those projects will be reported to DEQ in future years once they have been implemented. For a listing of projects proposed and awarded a grant in 2019 see Section 3.6.2 of the main report.

In 2019, there was one 319 project active that reported project outputs and accomplishments to DEQ. Combined the projects have a total grant budget of \$23,100. Table M-5 describes the project and the reported outputs.

Table M-5: Project outputs reported in 2019 for Section 319 pass through grants.

Project Name	Grantee	Project Description	Reported Outputs
Bear Creek TMDL Effectiveness Monitoring Analysis	Rogue Valley Council of Governments	The Bear Creek Valley has a robust water quality sampling program that begun in the early 1990s and is financially supported by the local designated management agencies (DMAs). The most recent Bear Creek dataset (2011-2017) will be analyzed through the ORISE fellowship program sponsored by EPA. This project will use the results of the ORISE statistical analysis of water quality data to develop information and provide outreach materials to assist with TMDL implementation by the DMAs in the Bear Creek Watershed.	In 2019 preliminary story map styles and contents were discussed. The ORISE fellow completed the statistical analysis on the water quality data for Bear Creek. The grantee has provided guidance and input into the process. Preliminary results have been shared at public meetings with the DMAs in the Bear Creek and greater Rogue Basin areas. All water quality data has been cleaned up and collated in preparation for submittal to DEQ.

3.2 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan program provides below market rate loans to public agencies for the planning, design and construction of various projects that prevent or mitigate water pollution. Eligible agencies include federally recognized Indian tribal governments, cities, counties, sanitary districts, soil and water conservation districts, irrigation districts, various special districts and intergovernmental entities. DEQ partners with Oregon communities to implement projects that attain and maintain water quality standards, and are necessary to protect beneficial uses. This section highlights the ongoing projects and the outputs and accomplishments reported to DEQ in 2019.

In 2019 there was one nonpoint source related Clean Water State Revolving Fund project active that reported project outputs and accomplishments to DEQ. Combined the projects have a total budget of \$4,829,000. Table M-6 describes the project and the reported outputs.

Table M-6: Nonpoint source related Clean Water State Revolving Fund project outputs reported in 2019.

Project Name	Grantee	Project Description	Reported Outputs
Riparian Restoration in Bear Creek Watershed	City of Ashland	Construct a riparian buffer along Bear Creek to reduced temperature as part of the City's Water Quality Trading Plan to meet its NPDES permit limits.	In progress - design

3.3 Source Water Protection Grants

The Oregon Health Authority regulates drinking water under state law and the Safe Drinking Water Act and works cooperatively with DEQ on source water protection efforts. Using the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund, OHA funds Source Water Protection Grants (up to \$30,000 per public water system) for source water protection activities, monitoring, and planning in Drinking Water Source Areas. In addition, loans are available for improving drinking water treatment, source water protection activities, or land acquisition in source areas. Oregon's Infrastructure Finance Authority is responsible for administering these projects. The loan fund set-asides also fund five Drinking Water Protection positions at DEQ that provide technical assistance to public water systems and communities while they develop and implement strategies that reduce the risk within the delineated source water areas. This section highlights the ongoing projects and the outputs and accomplishments reported to DEQ in 2019.

In 2019 there were two nonpoint source related Drinking Water Source Protection program projects active that reported project outputs and accomplishments to DEQ. Combined the projects have a total budget of \$60,000. Table M-7 describes the projects and the reported outputs.

Table M-7: Nonpoint source Drinking Water Source Protection program projects and outputs for 2019.

Project Name	Grantee	Project Description	Reported Outputs
Page Creek Aquatic Restoration Activities - Phase I	City of Cave Junction (00971)	Protect and restore Cave Junction's municipal water supply by reducing sediment and turbidity in Page Creek, a major tributary to Cave Junction's water supply. The project will add large wood to the stream, remove an impassable, perched, and undersized culvert, treat invasive species, and enhance riparian condition through planting native vegetation.	Limited planning and construction activities took place in 2019 due to difficulties obtaining funding and match funding within the in-water work window. Construction activities were suspended October 2019 at the end of the variance to the in-stream work window and are planned to resume again in August 2020. The project is planned for completion in September 2020.
Little Butte Creek Floodplain Rehabilitation Project	Medford Water Commission & City of Eagle Point (00513)	Improve water quality and enhance the quality and quantity of winter rearing habitat for juvenile salmon ids in mainstem Little Butte Creek by increasing floodplain and side channel connectivity, creating complex habitat, restoring riparian forest	The riparian planting and native grass seeding were completed in 2019. Maintenance will continue during 2020 and 2021 growing seasons to address regrowth of non-native species.

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Project Name	Grantee	Project Description	Reported Outputs
		<p>conditions, stabilizing severely eroding banks, and increasing public awareness of the biological and economic benefits of habitat restoration and clean water. Restore floodplain connectivity, re-contour steeply eroding banks and establish a floodplain forest to dissipate erosive forces and increase floodwater storage, reducing delivery of fine sediments to downstream areas, and lowering turbidity levels in the raw drinking water supply. Removal of noxious weeds and subsequent establishment of native plants will also reduce sediment input into Little Butte Creek.</p>	



Figure M-2: Site Revegetation for Little Butte Creek Floodplain Rehabilitation Project in Medford Water Commission's Drinking Water Source Area. Photo Credit: John Speece, Rogue River Watershed Council.

3.4 Drinking Water Provider Partnership Grants

Oregon DEQ participates in the Drinking Water Providers Partnership (DWPP) with USDA Forest Service Region 6, EPA Region 10, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management OR/WA Office, the Washington Department of Health, Geos Institute and WildEarth Guardians. Together, these partners coordinate a competitive grant solicitation and award program for environmental conservation and restoration projects in municipal watersheds across the Northwest. The Drinking Water Providers Partnership made the first of the annual awards in 2016 and most projects have a focus on nonpoint sources of pollution. The goal of the Partnership and the funding is to develop and support local partnerships to restore and protect the health of watersheds which communities depend upon for drinking water while also benefiting aquatic and riparian ecosystems, including the native fish that inhabit them. This section highlights the ongoing projects and the outputs and accomplishments reported to the DWPP in 2019.

In 2019 there were two Drinking Water Providers Partnership projects active that reported project outputs and accomplishments to the DWPP. Combined the projects have a total budget of \$80,000. Table M-8 describes the projects and the reported outputs.

Table M-8: Drinking Water Providers Partnership projects and outputs for 2019.

Project Name	Grantee	Project Description	Reported Outputs
Page Creek Aquatic Restoration Activities - Phase 1	Illinois Valley Watershed Council	This project comprises the first phase of a larger multi-phase effort to implement measures that reduce the risk of contamination to Cave Junction’s drinking water from forest management related practices (sediment, turbidity, other chemical changes) and sediment delivery during storms. By reducing sediment and turbidity in Page Creek, there will be a resulting decreased discharge of these contaminants into the East Fork Illinois River. The project will improve stream process and function along a 0.5 mile reach of Page Creek.	In 2019, partners increased channel complexity, stability and floodplain connection and improved riparian conditions. Work included: harvesting, hauling, and staging large wood for instream structures planned for construction during the 2020 instream work window; and removing a perched, undersized culvert that was a barrier to aquatic organisms at the upper portion of the project reach.
Little Butte Creek Floodplain Rehabilitation Project	Rogue River Watershed Council	The Rogue River Watershed Council is collaborating with the Cities of Eagle Point and Medford to restore a reach of Little Butte Creek as it flows through a 48-acre parcel of land that formerly served as a quarry and then the City’s wastewater treatment facility. Design work was funded in 2016 by the DWPP and implementation will commence in 2018 with berm removal and re-connecting the Creek with an historic side channel. Large wood complexes will be added and riparian vegetation planted to also help stabilize the streambanks.	See OHA funded portion of this project for 2019 accomplishments. Federal monies spent in 2018.



Figure M-3: Moving large wood for later instream placement. Photo Credit: Kevin O'Brien, Illinois Valley Watershed Council.

3.5 OWEB Grant Funded Projects

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) is a state agency that provides grants to help Oregonians take care of local streams, rivers, wetlands, and natural areas. These grant projects often address nonpoint sources of pollution and are thus included in this report.

Based on the most recent data available in OWEB's Oregon Watershed Restoration Inventory (OWRI) database, there were 22 OWEB funded projects completed in 2018 with a total cash and in-kind budget of \$2,384,055. The tables below summarize reported outputs for different project activities in each Rogue subbasin.

Learn more about OWEB grant programs at <https://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/grants/Pages/grant-programs.aspx>.

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Table M-9: Summary of OWEB grant funded fish passage projects completed in 2018, the most recent year data is available in the OWEB OWRI database.

Subbasin	Existing fish screens replaced, repaired, or modified (Number of treatments)	Fish Passage Non-crossing improvement (Number of treatments)
Applegate	1	3
Middle Rogue	NA	1

Table M-10: Summary of OWEB grant funded instream projects completed in 2018, the most recent year data is available in the OWEB OWRI database.

Subbasin	Stream bank stabilized (Miles)
Illinois	0.1
Upper Rogue	0.1

Table M-11: Summary of OWEB grant funded instream projects completed in 2018, the most recent year data is available in the OWEB OWRI database.

Subbasin	Instream habitat: Boulder placement (Number of treatments)	Instream habitat: Large wood placement (Number of treatments)	Instream habitat: Structure placement (Number of treatments)
Applegate	12	87	NA
Lower Rogue	NA	25	NA
Upper Rogue	NA	97	8

Table M-12: Summary of OWEB grant funded riparian projects completed in 2018, the most recent year data is available in the OWEB OWRI database.

Subbasin	Riparian fencing (Length of treatment)
Applegate	0.1

Table M-13: Summary of OWEB grant funded riparian projects completed in 2018, the most recent year data is available in the OWEB OWRI database.

Subbasin	Riparian invasive plant control (Area treated)	Riparian invasive plant control (Length of treatment)	Riparian invasive plant control (Stream sides treated)	Riparian vegetation planting (Length of treatment)
Applegate	NA	0.2	NA	0.1
Middle Rogue	8	NA	2	0.6

Table M-14: Summary of OWEB grant funded road projects completed in 2018, the most recent year data is available in the OWEB OWRI database.

Subbasin	Surface drainage improvement (Number of treatments)
Lower Rogue	1

Table M-15: Summary of OWEB grant funded upland projects completed in 2018, the most recent year data is available in the OWEB OWRI database.

Subbasin	Irrigation system improvement (Acre)	Upland erosion control (Acre)	Upland erosion control (Feet)	Upland erosion control (Number of treatments)
Middle Rogue	111.2	0.3	0	1

Table M-16: Summary of OWEB grant funded upland projects completed in 2018, the most recent year data is available in the OWEB OWRI database.

Subbasin	Nutrient/manure management (Acre)	Nutrient/manure management (Number of treatments)	Upland fencing (Acre)	Upland fencing (Mile)
Middle Rogue	0	1	0	0.2

Table M-17: Summary of OWEB grant funded upland projects completed in 2018, the most recent year data is available in the OWEB OWRI database.

Subbasin	Upland vegetation management (Area treated)
Middle Rogue	899

3.6 TMDL Implementation Highlights

TMDL implementation actions taken by Designated Management Agencies (DMAs) or third parties are described in the table below. Most of these actions were summarized from annual reports submitted by DMAs to DEQ in calendar year 2019.

Table M-18: TMDL implementation activities reported in 2019 by Designated Management Agencies or third parties.

TMDL	DMA	Reported Actions
Rogue River Basin and Bear Creek Watershed	Cities, Counties and Irrigations Districts	The Rogue River Basin and Bear Creek Watershed TMDLs' DMAs continue to make progress in implementing TMDL and clean water protection projects across the Rogue Basin. In 2019 the DMAs collaborated in providing comments and guidance to the Bear Creek data analysis project that was conducted by EPA's contractors and an ORISE fellowship participant.
Bear Creek Watershed	City of Ashland	In 2019 the city focused on its riparian restoration initiative to the areas of high need. Stormwater treatment facilities and pet waste dispensers continue to be maintained. Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG) is retained to provide outreach in accordance with TMDL and MS4 program requirements.
Rogue River Basin	City of Butte Falls	In 2019 the city continues to collect water quality samples from Hukill Creek, Butte Creek and Ginger Creek to ensure that this small community is not a source of water quality impacts to local creeks. Water quality parameters tested includes total coliform, E-coli, pH, dissolved oxygen and chlorine residuals.

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TMDL	DMA	Reported Actions
Rogue River Basin	City of Cave Junction	The city has adopted a LID manual and implemented a stormwater fee program that will provide minimal funding to a stormwater program.
Bear Creek Watershed	City of Central Point	Highlights in 2019 for the city include: published 8 articles related about the stormwater information or education in the citywide Newsletter; planted 5 trees along Griffin Creek in Flannagan Park for the Tree City and Arbor Day Celebration; maintained 22 public Pet Waste Disposal Stations in city parks and restocked approximately 120,000 bags; swept approximately 6,289 miles of city streets and remove approximately 390 tons of sediment, debris, road salts and trace metals that would have otherwise gone into the storm drain system and more. The city currently has 10 construction projects underway that will be using green infrastructure to treat stormwater runoff incorporated in their designs.
Rogue River Basin	City of Eagle Point	A project was implemented to decrease sedimentation due to erosion on Little Butte Creek within Eagle Point. Plans were developed by Cascade Stream Solutions for the stabilization work. The project is a partnership between the city of Eagle Point, Rogue River Watershed Council (RRWC), Bureau of Land Management, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Medford Watershed Council. A planting plan is being developed for the follow up project in 2020.
Rogue River Basin	City of Gold Beach	The city is responsible for protecting and maintaining the water quality for creeks within its jurisdictions that flow into the Rogue River. Dean Creek is the only named stream to feed into the Rogue River within the city's jurisdiction. The city continues to collaborate with the Lower Watershed Council and OSU Extension Service of Gold Beach to monitor and maintain water quality.
Rogue River Basin	City of Gold Hill	The city contracts with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) for mechanical sweeping of streets with curb/gutter two times per year. The city has recently purchased its own street sweeper to keep the gutters and stormdrains clean. The quotes for mats that cover the stormdrains have been received and those mats will be purchased in the very near future.
Rogue River Basin	City of Grants pass	The city staff continues to contribute an estimated 100 hours to the TMDL program for meetings and implementation actions that include maintaining doggie bag stations, implementing stormwater programs, managing invasive species and planting natives plants, working with volunteers and schools, networking with other groups, participating in Stream Smart, reporting, and other activities. Other contributing resources include staff from the RRWC, ODFW, RBP, and other programs (e.g., Stream Smart). Meanwhile, the city partners on other funding opportunities for program implementation in conjunction with

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TMDL	DMA	Reported Actions
		RVCOG. A funding of \$5,000 from the Meyer Memorial Trust was used for a restoration project in managing invasive species (knotweed), planting native species along Rogue River, providing education, and coordinating volunteers. In addition, the city, as a member of the Salmon Watch Partner, helped leverage \$9,340 from the Gray Family Foundation. Program needs include additional funding for invasive species management and riparian restoration.
Bear Creek Watershed	City of Jacksonville	In 2019 the city purchased 60,000 ‘dog poop bags’ at a total cost of \$1,855. An additional 20,000 bags were ordered in July 2019 at a cost of \$606. The city continues to plant trees in Mountain Park, remove blackberries and plant native trees in additional areas as resources allow.
Bear Creek Watershed	City of Medford	The city planted more than 700 trees along Bear Creek in the area of the Expo Center. The city continues to maintain its pet waste stations and all stormwater treatment facilities.
Bear Creek Watershed	City of Phoenix	The city completed the “Wetland Park” project phase II and installed total of 1700 native and pollinator friendly plants. Rogue Valley Sewer Services (RVSS) completed a bioswale at Colver Road Park in early October 2019.
Rogue River Basin	City of Rogue River	The city has been working on adopting a riparian protection ordinance for some time and helped conduct several public meetings in 2019. The city anticipates having ordinance adopted in early 2020.
Rogue River Basin	City of Shady Cove	The city continues to promote streamside gardening to protect streams from erosion and inform and implement the Shady Cove riparian protection ordinance. Rogue River cleanup and dog station maintenance continues.
Bear Creek Watershed	City of Talent	In 2019 the city continues to enforce the Tree Preservation and Protection Ordinance adopted in 2016. One relevant code violation was resolved. A Tree Committee was recently formed to further refine existing City Tree ordinances, consider new policy ideas and identify potential project areas.
Rogue River Basin	Curry County	The County has increased the amount of information available at the public counter servicing Community Development customers. This includes SB 1010 handouts, Stream Smart handouts, Oregon Department of State Lands handouts and others.
Rogue River Basin	Eagle Point Irrigation District	EPID joined with the Middle Rogue Watershed Council and the Jackson County Watermaster to install and maintain water quality monitoring devices. Their participation in the TMDL program included cooperation, partnering, implementing, reporting, and attending meetings in 2019.
Rogue River Basin	Gold Hill Irrigation District	The district highlights include piping the canal through an area of high potential for animal fecal contamination as that property

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TMDL	DMA	Reported Actions
		converted to a vineyard. Other highlights include developing farm plans with irrigators.
Rogue River Basin	Grants Pass Irrigation District	The district maintains an open-door policy with patrons to discuss any issues including water quality. Ditchwalkers are also available to answer any questions patrons or the public may have.
Rogue River Basin	Jackson County	Most of the activities in 2019 focused on planting in the area near the Expo Center following the fire. Other planting projects included finishing the work on a section of Lazy Creek at Lazy Creek Drive and on the Larson Creek at the Larson Creek Drive for the city of Medford. Over 700 trees and shrubs (including willow stakes) were planted in the Bear Creek watershed by the DMAs working with the RVCOG. Other contributing groups included Lomakasti Restoration, the Rogue River Watershed Council, ODFW, the Freshwater Trust (TFT) and Oregon Stewardship. The goal to plant 500 trees was achieved. Bear Creek planting and invasive species removal activities have been planned for the next year.
Rogue River Basin	Josephine County	According to Daily Courier (dated on 5/27/19 and 10/14/19), Josephine County participated in both of the Rogue River Clean-Up Days, the events set to clean up garbage along Rogue River's banks.
Bear Creek Watershed	Medford Irrigation District	The district has focused efforts on the GIS mapping in the 2019 season. The district has partnered with the Farmers Conservation Alliance through their Irrigation Modernization Plan.
Bear Creek Watershed	Rogue River Valley Irrigation District	Highlights for RRVID in 2019 include that the District has received a Water Smart grant to be applied to piping a portion of the main canal, which work began in 2018 and 2019 and will continue in 2020. The district is also working with WISE and Farmers Conservation Alliance (FCA) to develop a Rogue Basin irrigation system improvement plan.
Bear Creek Watershed	Talent Irrigation District	TID's ultimate goal is to pipe and upgrade the canal system and improve the operations in the overall system. The district is working with WISE and Farmers Conservation Alliance (FCA) to develop a Rogue Basin irrigation system improvement plan in collaboration with the other irrigation districts in the valley. In 2019 LiDAR imagery was examined as part of this project.