



RS EXCHANGE

REGIONAL SOLUTIONS

Weekly Report

Wednesday, January 8th, 2020

Below are some highlights from the Governor's [Regional Solutions Coordinators](#), on behalf of the eleven interagency teams across Oregon.

Mid-Valley Region – Jody Christensen

- **The Impact of Agritourism and Farm-Direct Sales:** If you have visitors on your farm, vineyard, fishery, or ranch, this survey could help guide more resources your way. Oregon State University's (OSU) Extension Service has partnered on a national survey designed to help researchers measure the impact of Agritourism, understand what makes a successful Agritourism business, and develop resources and programs. The survey will take less than 15 minutes to complete and will close January 31. Oregon-based data, first of its kind, will be used by the Oregon Agritourism Working Group, a coalition of agriculture and tourism partners including RS, and by OSU Extension. For more information, please contact [Audrey Comerford](#) or call (503) 588-5301.
 - Here is the Capital Press [Article](#) and [Survey](#).

Upcoming Scheduled Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Meeting

- **Mid-Valley RSAC:** Friday, March 20th, 2020, 9 AM – 12 PM; Location – TBA

South Valley/Mid Coast Region – Sarah Means

- **Panaco #10/Springfield Flame Site:** *Background* – The City of Springfield has been working with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) for a number of years to come to agreement on the purchase of an ODOT owned/surplus property in the Gateway area of the City. The site is a brownfield and prior to finalizing agreements for purchase, ODOT needs to complete brownfield assessments, clean-up and an appraisal so as to understand the value of the property and subsequent purchasing price for the City.
 - *Update* – This past week, the ODOT Right-of-Way Division has been working with RS staff and the City on the final details needed prior to an appraisal being completed. Comments on the brownfield assessments have been provided and clean-up of the site is scheduled for summer 2020. Timing is critical as the City has a “bird-in-hand” for development of the site and executing on an efficient timeline is critically important.

Southern & South Coast Regions – Alex Campbell

- **Charleston Ice House:** The International Port of Coos Bay's ice house in Charleston burned just before Christmas. The facility was the only large-scale public commercial flake ice production

facility between Brookings and Newport. The Port is working to identify an interim solution to provide ice to the fleet for the shrimping season this spring.

Upcoming Scheduled Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Meeting

- **South Coast-Umpqua RSAC:** Thursday, January 16th, 2020, 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM; Location – Coquille County Offices, Room 121, 250 N. Baxter St., Coquille, OR

Metro Region – Raihana Ansary

- **Electric Vehicle Symposium (EVS):** Metro RS convened an interagency meeting with Business Oregon, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), ODOT and the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to discuss state agency sponsorship of the upcoming June 2020 Electric Vehicle Symposium (EVS) in Portland. This Symposium is typically held in California when hosted in North America. It is an opportunity for the state of Oregon to leverage this event to promote the Governor’s policy leadership and Oregon as a competitive destination for the electric and autonomous mobility industry and its supply chain. An “Oregon Pavilion” within the larger EVS 33 convention can leverage global attention to grow business opportunities for Oregon manufactures, and recruit new business to Oregon.
- **Kellogg Creek Dam: Background** – The Kellogg Creek dam under OR-99E in Milwaukie prevents effective fish passage into the nine miles of Kellogg Creek tributary to the Willamette River. A full dam removal and bridge reconstruction project estimated to cost upwards of \$20 million is prohibitively expensive and has no funding strategy to move forward. The City of Milwaukie would like to work with the Governor’s Metro RS Team —specifically the DEQ, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), the Department of State Lands (DSL) and the Governor’s Natural Resource Office (GNRO)—to examine the viability and pros and cons of potential lower-cost fish passage alternatives that meet the needs of all state agencies and the City of Milwaukie.
 - **Update** – Metro RS met with the City of Milwaukie, Jim McKenna on the Governor’s Natural Resources team, Cascade Environmental Group and the North Clackamas Watersheds Council (NCWC) to revisit this project. NCWC recently received funding from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) and Patagonia for stakeholder engagement around the project. Metro RS will add capacity to this effort by reconvening state agencies (DEQ, ODFW, DSL) to make clear individual agency criteria / requirements for potential redesign of bridge and dam and explore potential funding strategies.

North Central Region – Nate Stice

- **Hood River Basin Wetlands:** The Team has recently helped with several smaller scale projects involving wetlands, and through these projects and other, we have continued to hear about the need for additional wetlands mitigation capacity. Other entities in the basin have started to explore the idea of a wetlands mitigation bank but lacked the staff capacity to move a project forward. These efforts did identify the high value of land and lack of large parcels as two barriers to a banking effort. During the first quarter of 2020, the North Central Team will provide capacity to move this effort forward. The Team has started gathering background on the project from relevant stakeholders and plans to convene a series of conversations late this quarter and early next quarter. We hope to find overlap and synergies with ongoing projects related to wastewater and water quality in the basin. Many thanks to DEQ Team member Greg Svelund for encouraging the team to move forward in helping on this subject.

Central Region – Annette Liebe

Upcoming Scheduled Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Meeting

- **Central:** March 12th, 2020; 9 AM – 12 PM; Location – TBD

South Central Region – Annette Liebe

- **South Central RS Team Outreach Meetings:** South Central RS Team, along with county and economic development partners held a series of outreach meetings just before the holidays:
 - Kingsley Field – Discussion items included the recent grant received by the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) to work with ODOE on mapping of renewable energy areas and military operations areas. Goal is to identify early and eliminate conflicts with the needs of the military as solar and wind projects are being built. The project also includes mapping of wildlife habitat since that is another key issue for renewable energy development. We also heard about the Oregon National Guard's groundwater monitoring and community outreach related to perfluorooctanesulfonate/perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOS/PFOA), an emerging contaminant associated with firefighting foam no longer in use by the Guard.
 - Klamath Tribes – Lack of housing is a critical issue; Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) will work with the Klamath Tribes to provide information about the next round of permanent supportive housing cohorts to be selected later this year. There was also a property identified as available for sale that may be of interest to the tribes. The Kleos property is for sale for \$1.2 million; it is a key piece of property (122 acres) for resource conservation with a ½ mile of river frontage, existing dorms plus some additional buildings. Finally, there was discussion about a potential Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Klamath County for law enforcement and generally an agreement for county commissioners to meet with tribal council.
 - City of Chiloquin – The RS Team heard updates on the City's water and wastewater projects. We also heard about the City's interest in taking over the County owned mill site to develop a walking park. The City would need planning and development funds. The City inquired about state resources to help address blight. The City and County recently signed an MOU to provide law enforcement services.

Upcoming Scheduled Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Meeting

- **South Central:** March 9th, 2019; 1 PM – 3 PM; Location – Lakeview, *More details to follow*

Greater Eastern & Northeast Regions – Courtney Warner Crowell

- **Scott Fairley:** As you all might have seen or heard, our own Scott Fairley passed away on Tuesday night while vacationing in Mexico. As both the Regional Solutions Coordinator for 10 years and most recently as a Regional Development Officer for Business Oregon, Scott was a vital and vibrant part of our team, our communities and our entire region and we are all struggling to deal with this loss. Scott was a tireless advocate for Eastern Oregon, a City Councilor for the City of Pendleton and the nicest guy in every room. He was an amazing member of our team and a good friend and we miss him already.
- **Blues Intergovernmental Council:** RS is participating in the Blues Intergovernmental Council with is a first in the nation effort for counties, US Forest Service (USFS) and other state and federal agencies to collaborate on forest planning in the Blue Mountains (Wallowa Whitman, Malheur and Umatilla National Forests). RS will be participating as a member of the Governor's office and helping coordinate with other state agencies who are participating. The Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) is convening this effort with the USFS and the National Policy Consensus Center (NPCC) is facilitating the meetings and the dialogue and process that has started so far is very impressive. RS is excited to play a role on this project.

- **New DLCD Eastern Region Representative:** Tamra Mabbott has officially started as our new DLCD representative for Eastern Oregon. She has already hit the ground running, but if you have any land use projects or questions, please feel free to reach out to her directly (tamra.mabbott@state.or.us).
- **Hines Pellet Mill:** We are getting very close to the air permit for the Hines Pellet Mill to be fully drafted and ready for public comment. RS has continued to hold monthly conference calls with DEQ, the company and the community to help this project move along smoothly and we are excited about the job opportunities that this project will have in Harney County. We believe that a public hearing on the project will be held in February.