

COOS-COQUILLE

Agricultural Water Quality Management Area

Biennial Review Report to the Board of Agriculture and ODA Director
Submitted by the Local Advisory Committee (LAC)



Meeting Date: November 21, 2024
LAC Members Present: Joan Mahaffy, JoAnn Mast, Sharon Waterman, Cassie Bouska, Mike Mader, Mark Van Camp, and Carol Trillia
Reporting Timeframe: Calendar years 2023-2024

PROGRESS MEASUREMENT

This was a Light Review; progress toward Measurable Objectives will be reported at the next Full Review.

Activities: Coos Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Coquille Watershed Association (CWA), Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership, Coos Watershed Association (WA)	#	Discussion
Events That Actively Engage Landowners	30	Coos SWCD: (11) workshops; public event tables and booths; project tours. CREP: (3) Cranberry Festival, fairs, one SIA open house attended, Partnership Farmers Market booth. NRCS: (2) NRCS local work group meetings. Coquille WSA: (14) Coos County Fair x2, Harvest Festival x2, Powers Fishing Derby x2, Cranberry Festival x2, Coquille River Days, Coos County Cost Share Training x2, Mayfly Festival x2.
Landowners Participating in Active Events	1,067	Coos SWCD (621), CREP (31), NRCS (15), Coquille WSA (400).
Landowners Provided Technical Assistance*	183	Coos SWCD (57), CREP (33), NRCS (25), Coquille WSA (68), Coos WA (3). Various forms of technical assistance related to agricultural water quality.
Site Visits	183	Coos SWCD (59), CREP (27), NRCS (32), Coquille WSA (65): On-site discussion of resource concerns, including water quality and quantity, pasture management, drainage, fish passage, riparian function, and erosion control. Initial site visits and inspections of installed practices.
Conservation Plans Written	26	Coos SWCD (5). CREP (4), including complete CREP packets and other Farm Bill planning support. NRCS (17): Coos SWCD staff collaborated with the NRCS District Conservationist on one landowner conservation plan this biennium, for a project enrolled in the Coos-Coquille Tide gate Conservation Implementation Strategy, or CIS. Environmental Quality Incentives Program funds awarded under the CIS will be used as match to other state and federal funds to restore a failing tide gate drainage system and implement riparian restoration, along

		with off-channel watering, on a working family farm. Coquille WSA (1): Strategic Action Plan for Coho Salmon Recovery – The Coquille Basin. Additionally, a Coquille Watershed Temperature Monitoring Plan was written.
Funding Applications Submitted	93	<p>CREP (1), NRCS (34), Coquille WSA (28).</p> <p>Coos WA (24): Funding to support restoration projects or technical assistance (design/planning) on lowland agricultural properties mostly addressing tide gates, fish passage barriers, and habitat restoration.</p> <p>Coos SWCD (30): Grant Applications for projects as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Coquille SIA (including multiple small-scale Lampa and Bear Creek restoration and technical assistance projects) • North Bank Working Landscapes Project • Randolph Island Floodplain Restoration • Noble Creek Tidal Restoration/Tide Gate Replacement • Winter Lake Phase III Working Landscapes Project • Albertson-Gatov Tide Gate Replacement/Working Landscapes projects • Sitkum Riparian Restoration • Cunningham Culvert Replacement • Coos Basin Water Quality Monitoring
Funding Applications Awarded	46	Coos SWCD (13), CREP (1), NRCS (17), Coquille WSA (15), Coos WA (22).

* Number reported likely double counts of some landowners due to tracking methods.

LAC DISCUSSION	
Summary of Progress	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the summary above and attached information and list of implemented practices for summary of progress. • It is great to have the local groups and agencies working together. • SWCD work and willing landowners in the Lower Coquille SIA has led to success. 	
Impediments	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need for more monitoring to provide factual information regarding water quality. 	
Recommended Modifications and Adaptive Management	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LAC recommends using solar pumping for off-stream water systems and to use these same systems to water riparian plantings in the summer (with Oregon Water Resources Department approval). NRCS stated they have programs for those practices. • Request for more eDNA testing to determine causes of <i>E. coli</i> pollution. 	

ODA COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES (1/1/2023 through 9/30/2024)								
Location	Cases		Site Visits	Agency Actions				
	New	Closed		Letter of Compliance		Pre-Enforcement Notification	Notice of Noncompliance	Civil Penalty
				Already in compliance	Brought into compliance			
Outside SIA	1	4	5	1	2	1	0	0
Within SIA	3	5	9	1	2	5	0	0