

NORTH COAST BASIN
Agricultural Water Quality Management Area
Biennial Review Report to the Board of Agriculture & ODA Director
Submitted by the Local Advisory Committee (LAC)



Meeting Date: April 11, 2024
LAC Members Present: Kay C. VanNatta, Mike Seppa, Ted Warila, Casey Storey, Robert Bradley, John Seymour, Karl Zweifel, Kristi Foster, and Margaret Magruder
Reporting Timeframe: Calendar years 2018-2023

PROGRESS MEASUREMENT

Management Area

No Management Area-wide measurable objectives currently. Water quality will be strategically addressed in the three active Strategic Implementation Areas (SIA) in the Management Area until Management Area-wide measurable objectives can be developed.

Focus Areas

Six Focus Areas are reported on from 2018-2023. All Focus Areas in the Management Area have been closed. Two of the closed Focus Areas have become SIAs.

Strategic Implementation Areas (SIAs)

Five SIAs are reported on from 2018-2023. Two have been closed and met their measurable objectives. Three are open and have not yet met their measurable objectives but work continues. Two of the three open SIAs started in 2023 and are in early stages.

Management Area-wide Activities (Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, and West Multnomah SWCDs)	6-Year Results	Description
Events That Actively Engage Landowners	48	Outreach events including county fairs, farmers markets, and pollinator festivals. Outreach campaigns focused on benefits to riparian improvement for agricultural lands.
Landowners Participating in Active Events	3,401	Tours and workshops for landowners and operators, and people participating in outreach events and stopping at outreach booths.
Landowners Provided Technical Assistance	918	Verbal, in-person, and written material provided about the following; wetland habitat improvement, riparian restoration, weed eradication, manure management, riparian maintenance, livestock exclusion, erosion prevention, soil health, cover cropping, riparian plantings etc.
Site Visits	879	Visits to provide consultation to explain Area Rule requirements, suggest conservation practices, and arrange for technical and financial assistance.
Conservation Plans Written	30	Plans written for confined animal feed operations included here.
Funding Applications Submitted	28	Applications written for activities such as livestock exclusion fencing, riparian plantings, and manure management.
Funding Applications Awarded	16	Mixture of funding awarded from OWEB, NRCS, and other local funding sources. Work to be implemented includes manure management, revegetation, and riparian plantings.

LAC DISCUSSION

Summary of Progress

- Landowners in this Management Area are routinely in compliance and are proud of work done in tandem with SWCD outreach and technical assistance.
- Tillamook Creamery Association is a great cooperative to ensure environmental and dairy brand protection.
- Riparian plantings are a well-received and successful strategy in the Management Area.

- There are many groups, nonprofits, and partnerships providing more real-time monitoring results for practitioners to reference in addition the DEQ Status and Trends Report. DEQ highlighted the monitoring done by Tillamook Estuaries Partnership.

Impediments

- High cost and low economic feasibility to replace tide gates, especially from drainage districts.
- Frustration in current solutions resulting in non-target species population growth.
- Environmental factors impeding vegetation plantings, e.g., heat dome/drought events.
- Size and scale of repair for bank stabilization (large bank calving, geological events) is economically prohibitive for private landowners.
- Tide gate improvement process is not streamlined between agencies. Many landowners give up on updating due to difficulty.

Recommended Modifications and Adaptive Management

- Useful to develop landowner self-reporting tool to report conservation/uplift (paper and digital).
- More eDNA sampling would help clarify bacteria sources.

ODA COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

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	7	6	9	3	0	4	0	0
Within SIA	3	2	5	2	0	2	0	0