



**AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
 AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA
 BIENNIAL REVIEW SUMMARY REPORT TO THE BOA & DIRECTOR
 SUBMITTED BY THE LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Management Area: Inland Rogue
Meeting Date(s): February 6, 2020
LAC Members Present: Bob Niedermeyer, Tom Dover, Ron Hillers
Progress Measurement: New 2019 Applegate Valley Phase 1 SIA, Little Butte Focus Area, Williams Focus Area, Sunny Valley Focus Area, Deer Creek Focus Area. Focus Areas have associated Measurable Objectives in the Area Plan.
<p>Actions/Implementation Summary:</p> <p>AgWQ Outreach and Education:</p> <p><u>Illinois Valley SWCD:</u> 6 AgWQ newsletters: 250, Presentations & events: 8 (114 participants), Displays/Info Booths: 7 (~650 visitors). Hosted AmeriCorps RARE participant for 2 terms (Volunteer and Engagement Coordinator), developed 8 successful proposals/applications to support the position.</p> <p><u>Jackson SWCD:</u> Overall we held approximately 85 Education and Outreach meetings with approximately 683 attendees. Additionally we either facilitated or participated in approximately 69 partnership meetings.</p> <p><u>The Freshwater Trust:</u> Staffed booth at five local events to provide information about the importance of protecting water quality and restoring streambanks. TFT produced and disseminated one video and two story profiles highlighting Rogue agricultural landowners as well as two story profiles on Rogue restoration partners.</p> <p>AgWQ Technical Assistance & Planning:</p> <p><u>Illinois Valley SWCD:</u> Provided 94 landowners with direct TA and 30 landowners with on-site visits, and 6 fund applications submitted.</p> <p><u>Jackson SWCD:</u> Overall, JSWCD provided 340 site-visits and technical assistance for approximately 344 landowners.</p> <p><u>The Freshwater Trust:</u> Modeled and mapped 124 stream miles and 41,430 acres of riparian land to prioritize areas that are most vulnerable to erosion and sediment loading in the Little Butte system using the Little Butte SLAM (Sediment Loss Analysis and Measurement) tool.</p> <p>Projects implemented to improve water quality on agricultural lands:</p> <p><u>Illinois Valley SWCD:</u> 0.4 acres of riparian planting, 2 irrigation diversions.</p> <p><u>Jackson SWCD:</u> Implemented a flood-to-sprinkler irrigation conversion project along Little Butte Creek on 94 acres in partnership with NRCS.</p> <p><u>The Freshwater Trust:</u> Implemented 9 projects on agricultural lands: all project sites included riparian revegetation with more than 40,000 native trees and shrubs across 35 acres; 100 instream large wood structures were built on 4 project sites; and 1 project site included fish barrier removal.</p> <p>Monitoring:</p> <p><u>Jackson SWCD:</u> Developed and monitored water quality in Antelope Creek 2017-2021 to collect baseline data for the Hopkins Canal Pipeline Project and subsequent Bradshaw Drop CIS area irrigation improvement projects.</p> <p>Funding and Grants:</p> <p><u>Illinois Valley SWCD:</u> \$180,000 grants written and secured.</p> <p><u>Jackson SWCD:</u> Provided grant writing and grant funding for the RRVID Hopkins Canal Pipeline project as well as grant writing and funding for the Bradshaw drop projects. Additionally, financial assistance was provided to landowners throughout Jackson County.</p> <p><u>The Freshwater Trust:</u> DWPP grant to fund development of the SLAM tool. Title II / BLM funding to improve habitat irrigation diversion. OWEB grants for ag water quality and habitat improvement in Little Butte Creek. USFS grant to reduce sediment inputs from agricultural lands and forest roads to protect Wild & Scenic Rivers. Contract with the city of Ashland to develop a thermal credit program to restore riparian areas. TFT's work since 2012 in the Rogue Basin has leveraged \$13.3 million in funding and investments with an additional \$7-10 million secured for restoration work over the next several years.</p>
Summary of Impediments: Continual concern that not all ag landowners are aware of the Area Plan & Rules. Concern regarding the significant expansion of hemp and the potential impact to water quality and quantity.
Recommendations for Modifications: Improved Outreach Plan & Implementation. Partners are working together on an updated outreach plan. Support for partners increasing outreach and education related to hemp: cover crops, water quality, water rights, and fish habitat.
<p>Compliance:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Letter of Compliance - 2 Pre-Enforcement Notification - 22 Notice of Noncompliance - 0 Civil Penalty - 0</i></p>