

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



Meeting Date: March 21, 2024
LAC Members Present: Glenn Barrett, Bill Kennedy, Frank Hammerich, Mark Johnson, Mark Beuttner, and Lyndon Kerns
Reporting Timeframe: Calendar years 2022-2023

PROGRESS MEASUREMENT

Management Area

Measurable Objectives: There are currently no measurable objectives in this Management Area.

Focus Area: Upper Lost River

Measurable Objectives: See below for December 31, 2027. N/A: Focus Area closed in June 2023.

Milestones: See below for June 30, 2023. N/A: Assessment was not completed.

Current Conditions: Focus Area closed.

Progress Toward Measurable Objectives and Milestones

Final assessment information not available from Klamath SWCD. Due to the closure of the Focus Area the measurable objective set for 2027 will not be met, but progress was made in the Focus Area over its life. The numbers listed in the table below for activities and accomplishments are as follows: the total accomplishments through 2021 + accomplishments from 2022/2023 = total accomplishments from 2017-2023.

	Assessment Results: Number (% of total)			Goals Set (Focus Area closed before they were met)	
	2019	2021	2023	Milestone (2023)	Measurable Objective (2027)
Trees + Shrubs + Grass acres	61 (17)	64 (18)	N/A	101 (28)	148 (41)
Wild flood irrigation acres	18,798 (48)	18,798 (48)	N/A	18,498 (47)	18,398 (46.7)
Fenced stream miles	8 (22)	9 (25)	N/A	13 (36)	18 (50)
Livestock water facilities	44 (59)	45 (60)	N/A	49 (65)	55 (73)

Activities and Accomplishments

Community and Landowner Engagement

# events that actively engage landowners	1 + 4 = 5
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# landowners participating in active events	12 + 45 = 57
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Technical Assistance (TA)

# landowners provided with TA	60 + 138 = 198
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# site visits	22 + 24 = 46
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# conservation plans written	Projects were completed, but didn't meet ODA's definition of a conservation plan
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Ag Water Quality Practices Implemented in the Focus Area

Juniper removal (acres)	2,240 + 45 = 2,285
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Livestock wells (nose pump)	2
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Fencing (feet)	5,050 + 13,517 = 18,567
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Ditch piping (feet)	1,620 + 820 = 2,440
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Adaptive Management Discussion

Klamath SWCD plans to continue work in this area but believes that the Focus Area reporting decreased efficiency and increased the risk of double reporting work.

Currently planned projects

No further planned activities associated with the Focus Area.

LAC DISCUSSION

Summary of Progress

- Agencies are increasingly working together and coordinating more, eliminating redundancies, and increasing productivity and program delivery to landowners.
- Tables 4.2b and 4.2c were highlighted to show a more comprehensive picture of how much agencies are contributing to conservation projects in the Management Area.

Impediments

- It is hard to establish measurable objectives without really understanding the baseline data or having an initial assessment of the Management Area.
- DEQ TMDLs, specifically temperature, are considered to be unrealistic and unattainable by many LAC members. With the natural characteristics of the Lost River area, high temperatures are common, and this affect's landowners' abilities to try and achieve TMDLs.
- Concerns about water quality in Upper Klamath Lake affecting the Lost River Management Area.

Recommended Modifications and Adaptive Management

- Find out if Chapter 1 can be modified with language from the 2004 Management Plan, and if not, add to another chapter.
- The SWCD, Sustainable Northwest, and other partners will work to create a comprehensive project list or map so the LAC can have a better understanding of the baseline status and the initial assessment of the area before it meets again in one year to establish measurable objectives.
- Nina Caldwell (RWQS) to develop purpose statement for next meeting in roughly April/May 2025.
- Continue ODA involvement in strategy development activities in Management Area to ensure continuity with Lost River Area Plan objectives.

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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Within SIA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A