



**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: Malheur River Management Area

Meeting Date(s): January 17, 2019

LAC Members: Jim Bentz, Loren Weideman, Jerry Erstrom

Progress Measurement – Measurable Objectives: Focus Area is Coyote Gulch/Hyline Bench
Within the Coyote/Hyline Focus Area the percentage of land in Class 1 has more than doubled since 2015. While there are no discernable changes in orthophosphorus, total phosphorus, or total suspended solids concentrations at the monitoring location on the Coyote Drain at Pioneer Road. We know at least a quarter of the drain shed for that monitoring location is likely not included in the Focus Area, therefore comparisons cannot be made between changes on the landscape and at Coyote.

Class	Land Condition: % of acreage (6,156 acres)		
	2015	2017	2018
1: least potential for pollution	15	24	41
2: moderate potential	22	21	15
3: most potential	62	55	44

Actions/Implementation Summary:

Accomplishments Reported by Area Plan Objectives	
Goal Prevent and control water pollution from agricultural activities and soil erosion and to achieve applicable water quality standards.	
Objectives	Accomplishments
Sustain and/or improve water quality by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent runoff of agricultural wastes Control soil erosion on uplands to acceptable rates Provide adequate riparian vegetation for stream bank stability and stream shading consistent with site capability 	In progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install 2 pivots in Coyote Gulch Focus Area Stabilized 4,600 feet of Little Malheur streambank with rootwads, willow planting, willows, and fencing of willows Projects that are not complete but being implemented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove 831 acres of juniper with snags being placed in washed out riparian areas Plan for 5,000 acres on uplands, treat 200 acres with a fire strip and replant burned area with native and non-native seed. Fence off 1 mile of riparian area with a buck and pole fence. Install solar system to pump from well to a trough outside riparian area 2 miles of riparian work with Malheur Watershed on Clover Creek. Remove juniper from 105 acres of aspen. Remove 60 acres of juniper from riparian area North Fork streambank stabilization 1,800 feet with rootwads, rock willow planting tree planting with Malheur Watershed Council
Increase public awareness and understanding of agriculture's contributions to improving water quality through coordinated watershed outreach activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landowner meeting for Jacobson Gulch area with NRCS, Malheur Watershed Council Shared water quality data with Extension, producers, ODA for FSMA and continuation on the Malheur FSMA Committee

Summary of Impediments: Need strategic data recorders for water quality sampling, TSS water flow data. Funding for continuation of current monitoring sites.

Recommendations for Modifications: A large discussion was also held on forming a monitoring group to better facilitate the monitoring goals in the Malheur Management Area. It was decided that the ODA, along with DEQ, would put together a template for a long-range plan to present to the LAC and local working groups the summer of 2019 to begin prioritizing future monitoring areas.

DEQ Recommendations: The Plan references the Malheur River Basin TMDL, which was approved by US EPA in 2010, and the Snake River Hells Canyon TMDL, which was approved by EPA in 2004. The Plan connects water quality actions to the Malheur River Basin TMDL load allocations for bacteria and phosphorus, and the sediment (TSS) load allocations for tributaries of the Snake River from the Snake River Hells Canyon TMDL. The prohibited conditions in the rules are sufficient. Outreach and education as well as enforcement of the rules are the major needs. No additional prohibited conditions or mandatory control measures are needed at this time.

Compliance: Letter of Compliance -0 Water Quality Advisory -0 Letter of Warning -0
Notice of Noncompliance -0 Civil Penalty -0 Alternative Measures -0

Total Complaints/Notifications: 0