

## UMATILLA

### Agricultural Water Quality Management Area

#### Biennial Review Report to the Board of Agriculture & ODA Director

Submitted by the Local Advisory Committee (LAC)



OREGON  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE

**Meeting Date(s):** January 19, 2021

**LAC Members Present:** Robin Harris, CTUIR; Chris William, Dryland Farmer; Tom Straughan, Dryland Farmer

**Reporting Time Frame:** 2018-2020

#### PROGRESS MEASUREMENT

*This was a Light Review; quantitative details related to Measurable Objectives are not reported at Light Reviews.*

*This was a Lite Review. Quantitative details related to Measurable Objectives (MOs) are not reported at Lite Reviews.*

##### Progress Measurement – Measurable Objectives:

**Focus Area:** Spring Hollow Creek Closed Spring 2020 with no measurable improvements tracked due to landowner difficulties working on the Umatilla Indian Reservation and CREP contracts not getting finalized in local Farm Service Agency Office. SWCD opening Owens Creek Area Spring 2021.

##### SIA: McKay/ Birch/ Stewart

Pre-Assessment					
Tax Lots	Tax Lots Evaluated	Limited Opportunity	Low Opportunity	Opportunity for Improvement	Potential Violations
2,514	587	552	29	6	0

All landowners that were identified as an Opportunity for Improvement are working directly with the Umatilla SWCD. No Potential Violations were identified. Implemented (3) projects and continuing to take water quality samples.

##### Actions/Implementation Summary throughout Management Area:

###### Community & Landowner Engagement:

- Watershed Field Days (1) 600 5th Grade Students/Canceled in 2020 due to COVID Restrictions
- Farm Presentation (1) Canceled in December 2020 due to COVID Restrictions
- Division of State Land and Army Corp of Engineer permitting presentations (3)
- Landowner flooding presentations for the county and local municipalities (10)
- Started a new Drone program and have worked with (15) landowners to map their properties

###### Planning and Projects:

- Implemented (3) projects within the SIA boundaries
- Assisted (75) landowners during the McKay and Umatilla Floods of 2019 and 2020
- Had (35) site visits with landowners

###### Monitoring:

- McKay/Birch/ Stewart SIA sampling frequency (2) per month on Birch/Stewart creeks and (1) on McKay Creek
- Sampling Flow/Temperature (2) sites
- E. coli/Temperature (1) site
- TSS/TN/TP/ Intsta. Flow (5) sites
- E. coli/TSS/TN/TP (2) sites

###### Funding and Grants:

- 11 small and large OWEB grants were submitted with 6 getting funded
- \$524,383 were secured for the grants submitted over the past two years

**Summary of Impediments:** None Identified

#### RECOMMENDED MODIFICATIONS AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

Due to catastrophic flooding in 2019 and 2020, landowners are working with local official on developing long-term watershed plans to better monitor and manage spring runoff and McKay Reservoir storage. SWCDs received TA Grant from OWEB to rehab the wildfire areas. In addition, EQIP dollars were used to help landowners who lost complete irrigation systems due to flooding.

The LAC feels that streamside vegetation is being adequately addressed in the Management Area through CREP and other programs. They also feel that manure management is not a major concern in the Management Area and that any manure management is being addressed through the SIAs.

LAC members will need to be recruited for the next Biennial Review. The Umatilla LAC has lost three members in the past year.

#### COMPLIANCE ACTIONS

Letter of Compliance	Water Quality Advisory	Letter of Warning	Notice of Noncompliance	Civil Penalty
1	0	0	1	0