

Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council  
Steering Committee Meeting

27 Sept 2006  
Lowell, OR  
6:30 PM

Present: Barbara Hazen, Nancy Sawtelle, Stephanie Schroeder, Eve Montanaro, Pat Burns, Cary Hart, Chuck Davis, Dan Hurley

I. Approval of the Agenda  
Agenda approved as written.

II. Approval of the Minutes of 28 Jun 2006 Steering Committee Meeting.  
Minutes approved as written.

III. Coordinator's Comments – Ms Montanaro  
Ms Montanaro thanked the Steering Committee for their commitment and contributions. She reported that the September meeting was a nice tour of the Lost Creek Confluence project site followed by a picnic and presentation of certificates of appreciation for people who worked on projects in the park.

IV. Steering Committee Members Concerns and Announcements

- Mr Davis said that EWEB, SUB and the Extension Service are continuing to work on their agricultural chemicals legacy round-up. The deadline for letting the consortium know the inventory of chemicals, etc. to be turned in is Oct 1. They have accepted some chemicals already. One of the barrels they moved was so corroded it started to leak as they moved it. So far there are only 24 participants in the Mid Fork watershed. They have done mailings, radio announcements, TV and newspaper spots plus word of mouth. The actual collection will start around 18 Oct.

V. Projects Committee – Ms Montanaro

- Projects Update:
  1. Lost Creek Riparian Project (Replanting after knotweed removal). Jodi Lemmer was working with Ms Montanaro on the project but she has recently moved to the McKenzie River Trust as their land steward. They did hold an informational meeting but only had a handful of landowners who attended. About 10 are interested in replanting. Leslie Grimes is Jodi's successor and will be working with Ms Montanaro in reaching out to the Lost Creek residents about small grant proposals regarding the replanting. They would write a grant for 10 to 15 landowners as 1 big grant if there is enough interest.
  2. Phase 2 Lost Creek Confluence Project. Phase 1 was mowed this summer; it may need to be mowed one more time. Non-native grass had come back. Mrs Sawtelle said that she might be able to supply some native grass seed. The 24 acres was mowed by Tom Heer. He left some height as USF&WS will be in in Oct to cut and spray with the Brush Monitor. Ms Montanaro had 2 work parties to salvage native plants. There were 5 to 6 different species present. Aryana Ferguson turned in a report on the native plants that were present at the site. Jeff Bandow helped

manage the site. He helped reinstalled the irrigation pump and repaired the lines. He helped the Youth Corps remulch Phase 1. One section of Phase 1 is struggling but it is very rocky there; it is probably an old gravel bar deposit. Ms Montanaro will be getting shade cloth for the blackberries. Mr Stewart will be closing trails around the area for a week while they are spraying. Ms Montanaro is starting to get estimates on the next work that needs to be put out for bids. The Project Committee will need to vote on what dollar amounts Ms Montanaro can award and what needs to come to the committee for a vote before it is awarded.

3. Jim's Creek Stewardship Project

The first meeting has taken place. They decided on the decision making process and who can vote. The member will need to have attended at least 1 out of 4 meetings to vote. Next Thurs they will meet from 5 to 9 PM at the Lowell office to look at the watershed analysis of the area. They will then begin to set goals for the group. A lot of hunters attended the first meeting. The goal is to have the local community participate in the planning recommendations for the restoration of the area. Ms Montanaro would like to see more groups represented. If you can't make it at 5, come late anyway.

4. Haws OR Chub Enhancement Project.

This was fully funded in the Sept OWEB meeting.

5. Buck Creek Project

This was fully funded at the Sept OWEB meeting also. Ms Montanaro is still working with the non-OWEB funding sources. She should have word within the month about the funding. They will need to coordinate this repair with the Jim's Creek project due to the road/bridge involvement.

• Potential Project Proposals

1. Haws-LIP

There are about \$8000 additional expenses. They will be sending a grant proposal to the OWEB landowners incentive program. The deadline for this grant proposal to be in is the end of Oct. This grant needs about 2 ½ days of additional work getting cultural and species surveys and writing it up. The DSL permitting process is also speedy.

2. Lost Creek Confluence Project – Phase 3

Funding is needed to re-establish plants. There is funding in Phase 2 to replant 12 acres. We still need funding to remove the blackberries and for new plants for the remaining 12 acres. If we get the funding now, the site preparation for Phase 2 will work for Phase 3 also. We need around 30 to 40 thousand dollars. The planting would occur in 2008. This grant proposal is due Oct 16 and will take 2 1/2 days to complete.

3. Indigo Springs

We are not considering this project at this time. Perhaps in the April grant cycle.

4. US Army Corps Floodplain Outreach Program

This grant would be in support of the Army Corps floodplain restoration study. Ms Montanaro would like to continue to work with the project, working with landowners who have expressed an interest in the floodplain restoration project. The grant proposal is for technical assistance in designing and developing restoration projects working with the interested landowners. Pam Reber of the Coast Fork will be applying to the Governor's Fund, Ms Montanaro will be applying to OWEB. This proposal will take 3 days to complete and is due Oct 16.

DECISION. Is there support for the Coordinator to write and submit the grant proposals for each of the projects considered? Passed unanimously.

VI. Administration Committee – Ms Burns

Ms Burn's presented the Treasurer's report. There was \$69.33 left over in the last fiscal year which was transferred to the next year's budget. Ms Montanaro thanked Ms Burns for checking the spreadsheets and catching the errors.

VII. Education Committee – Ms Montanaro, Ms Sawtelle

- The position description for the Outdoor Educator Position is not available tonight for our decision. Ms Montanaro will email it out for a decision.
- The BLM is interested in the educational component of watershed councils. Emily Rice was interested in the MFWWC getting the outdoor school going. The BLM started this with an \$8K grant. Out of this has come the proposal for the outdoor education school and the position description for the outdoor educator. We are planning to start a pilot project in Lowell and make it available to Oakridge and Pleasant Hill. The BLM would like to fund the outdoor event and not necessarily the salary of the staff members. However, some coordination is necessary. The BLM is joined by SUB, ODFW, the Forest Service and the State Parks Dept in this project. Ms Chinitz is writing up the job proposal for the Educator. The program will develop as the teachers and the outdoor educator meet and plan. The idea is to have several activities per year that meet the teachers' needs. The Education Committee will do most of the work of planning and one of them will present the project to the Steering Committee for approval. The goal is to get further funding to make the program sustainable. An Americorps volunteer helped create the folder of materials re: Oregon benchmarks. The State BLM office is interested in developing a native plants curriculum. The MFWWC be part of the committee developing this material. There will also be an advisory committee. They are hoping to develop a regional pilot for 2008 which we would be using in the field.

VIII. October Meetings

Oct 18 – Oakridge discussions about OR Chub and also the Buck Creek project

Oct 25 – Steering Committee meeting – cancelled as Ms Montanaro will be at the OWEB meeting

Nov 2 – rescheduled Steering Committee meeting

IX. Next Meeting

2 Nov 2006

Lowell, OR

6:30 PM

Meeting adjourned 8:36 PM.

Barbara Hazen

Recorder