

South Santiam Watershed Council
Meeting Minutes, 3/18/2009

In attendance: Tim Otis, Jennifer Costelow, Nancy MacHugh, Katie Kohl, Scott Marlega, Roberta Swift, Sean Larson, Frank Garcia, Nancy Gilmore, Diane Kaldahl, Norm Kaldahl, Erika Lang, Eric Hartstein

Presentation: “The Economic Crisis and Our Region”, by Chuck Willer of the Coast Range Association.

February Meeting Minutes Review: Accepted

Landowner Recruitment for Restoration Update, Erika Lang: Erika’s funding will end in June with current grants. All deliverables for current grants have been achieved. Two grants have been approved to help fund the position for the next two years, with three additional grants pending. Erika gave an update on projects she has worked on, and will send note to landowners who have received plants that they need to water this summer. Erika is looking for a Watershed Watch writer(s) to submit articles in local papers.

South Santiam WSC Projects Update:

- Ames Creek Fish Passage: Staff from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board recommended funding the project to the OWEB Board which meets this week. Permits to the US Army Corps of Engineers and Oregon Dept. of State Lands were signed by landowners (private landowner/City of Sweet Home) and submitted today. We are still looking for ~\$25,000 in order to implement the project; proposals are pending with Title II (federal payments to Counties) and economic stimulus. If fully funded, implementation can occur this summer, pending permits.
- Crabtree Creek Japanese Knotweed Control: Staff from OWEB recommended funding the project to the OWEB Board with the caveat that landowners receiving treatment be responsible for maintenance. We also received word that the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture will fund the project this year, although at a reduced project amount from what was requested. Title II funding is also a possibility.
- Santiam Fish Passage: The OSU graduate class completed some preliminary designs on one high priority culvert in the fish passage barrier inventory; however it is the barrier in the North Santiam watershed. The next class will complete preliminary designs for a barrier identified in the South Santiam watershed.
- STEWARDS Watershed Education: We received a \$2,480 grant from the Sweet Home Community Foundation to help implement the summer program which will purchase food, supplies and transportation for family backpacking trips in the watershed this summer.

Fiscal Agreement with Cascade Pacific RC&D, Discussion: The Council discussed the draft fiscal agreement with Cascade Pacific RC&D and suggested edits.

Risk Management: Takeaways from workshop and planning: Nancy G., Erika and Eric talked about the workshop, and the Council agreed to discuss a fiscal policy and procedures document at the April meeting and go over insurance options.

Meyer Memorial Trust/Bonneville Environmental Foundation Update and Planning: The regional Watershed Councils met with representatives from MMT/BEF on Monday, March 16th to begin discussing our proposal to be a model watershed for the Willamette Valley. In advance, we prepared a draft paper that outlined our thoughts on selected tributaries to focus on (South Santiam: Crabtree, McDowell, and Hamilton Creeks) and some possible objectives: noxious weed control, stream flow, native plantings, in-stream work, etc. Dates for group meetings are preliminarily: April 6th, May 1st, and June 1st. These meetings will help flesh out a proposal that will help fund our watershed councils for 10 years, it is very important to get Council input.

