



Lincoln County Local Work Group Meeting Notes

2/26/2025 10 am - noon at OSU Extension Office in Newport

Introductions

- There were 11 participants in attendance in person and 9 online via Zoom, including local landowners and representatives from the Intertribal Agriculture Council, Lincoln SWCD staff and board, MidCoast Watersheds Council, ODA, Oregon DEQ, Oregon WRD, OSU Extension Service, Pacific Birds Habitat Join Venture, Tel-tum' (Siletz Health Clinic Farm), Yakona Nature Preserve, and NRCS.
- Top Natural Resource Concerns Attendees are Currently Dealing with:
 - Water quantity – summer availability for irrigation
 - Water quality – excess nutrients, temperature
 - Habitat restoration – riparian, wetlands, and estuaries
 - Invasive species/noxious weeds
 - Forest management – replanting, buffers, blowdown
 - Post-fire recovery – fire-adapted, resilient communities and forests

NRCS Programs & Conservation Implementation Strategies – Annie Marion, District Conservationist

- See PowerPoint presentation for last year's activities
- Nikki Hendricks, OWRD Water Master was on the call.
 - She stated that no new water rights are likely to be given.
 - She offered to have people reach out to her directly to discuss their specific scenarios, because of the high variability of each case.
- David Waltz (DEQ, online) asked if landowners could work with other entities in addition to NRCS (ODF Small Forest Owners was his example). We responded that people are able to work with other entities as long as there isn't duplication of payments.

Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District Program Updates – Tyler Clouse, Executive Director

Contact info: tyler@lincolnswcd.org, <http://www.lincolnswcd.org/>

- Pollinator Habitat Corridor Program – see website for details
- OWEB Small Grant Program has ~\$60K remaining

Future Conservation Needs/Concerns

- Potential for National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) funding in the Siletz Basin starting in 2026
- No RCPP updates since February webinars were cancelled
- Updated [Long-Range Plan for the Central Coast \(2024\)](#)
- Additional Concerns from Attendees:
 - Erosion from elk herds (feel cattle are being wrongly blamed in this case)
 - Keeping more water in streams
 - Ex. Irrigation efficiency improvements
 - Prescribed fire: see potential for more in this region
 - Wildfire preparation

Partner Announcements

- OSU Extension – Dan Stark, Forestry & Natural Resources
 - <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/people/dan-stark>
 - <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/lincoln/forestry-natural-resources>
 - Provided *Phytophthora* information and directed people to their website
 - Also directed people to their website for other resources specific to landowners
 - Succession planning through OSU Extension--goes beyond legal items
 - Emerald Ash Borer and Mediterranean Ash Borer training through OSU Extension
 - General management information available through OSU Extension
- Soils Interpretation class offered through LSWCD on May 20 in Lincoln City
- DEQ has released Daily TMDLs for Upper Yaquina
 - Plans are due by March 15
 - Assess for strategies to reduce pollutant loads

Thanks again to everyone who participated in the Local Work Group process this year, and thanks to Jessica Wells and Matt Bahm for helping to facilitate the meeting.

Contact Info:

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<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/oregon/lincoln-lane-west-county>