



**AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
 AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA  
 BIENNIAL REVIEW SUMMARY REPORT TO THE BOA & DIRECTOR  
 SUBMITTED BY THE LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

<b>Management Area:</b> South Santiam
<b>Meeting Date(s):</b> December 17, 2014
<b>LAC Members Present:</b> Clint Bentz, Karren Cholewinski, Charles Knoll, Sudy Lamb, John Marble, Liz VanLeeuwen
<p><b>Focus Area Progress:</b>          During the last biennium, the District coordinated with NRCS to provide outreach to 29 landowners in the Crabtree Focus Area including technical assistance, disseminating focus area fact sheets, Area Plan and Rules information and seeking funds for conducting projects for 2 landowners.</p>
<p><b>Actions/Implementation Summary:</b></p> <p><i><b>Outreach and Education:</b></i>          Linn SWCD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Held local landowner workshops in 2012, 2013, and 2014</li> <li>• Held local farmer meeting with USDA and NRCS</li> <li>• Contacted county livestock association and local Watershed Councils</li> <li>• Sponsored several meetings and attended agriculture events to present information about water quality issues and optional management practices to further help water quality</li> <li>• Worked with ODA to put Area Plan and Rules documents on the ODA website</li> <li>• Worked with OSU Extension to develop several practices that would fit with local landowner’s need, such as no-till, strip till and intensive pasture management</li> <li>• Worked with OSU Extension to co-sponsor South Valley Farm Tours to feature demonstration sites of practices that help water quality in agricultural production while maintaining production viability</li> <li>• Held a water quality informational presentation at Linn County Agriculture Expo. Provided information on state and federal programs that help finance implementation of on-farm practices</li> <li>• Provided several realtors with information on soils, streams, and educational tools</li> <li>• Published monthly articles to Growing, an OSU Extension and Albany Democrat Herald publication that reaches 13,000 people monthly</li> <li>• Provided technical assistance to 296 landowners and to make them aware of the Area Plans and Rules</li> <li>• Linn SWCD worked with 7 landowners on local cost share, OWEB Small Grants programs</li> <li>• Worked with 47 landowners on federal programs such as EQIP and CREP</li> <li>• Informed county commissioners of Linn SWCD monthly meetings, LAC work, Area Plan and Rules</li> </ul> <p><i><b>Planning and Projects:</b></i>          Linn Soil and Water Conservation District in cooperation with USDA NRCS and FSA has implemented 55 conservation plans to cover 4,000 +/- acres in Linn County:</p> <p><u>Temperature &amp; Near stream Area</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40,211+/-feet of streambank fencing</li> <li>• 848 acres of irrigation management to promote timely and proper application of water to crops</li> <li>• 505 acres of nutrient management to properly apply nitrogen, potash, and phosphorous</li> <li>• 241.7 acres of riparian establishment through the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)</li> </ul> <p><u>Bacteria &amp; Nutrients</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 acres of cover crop</li> <li>• 169 acres of Brush Management</li> <li>• 2,000+/- feet of installed grass waterways and the construction of 5 waste management facilities to reduce contaminants from running off agricultural lands</li> </ul> <p><u>Specific projects &amp; efforts include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 waste management facilities (Linn SWCD)</li> <li>• 40,211 feet stream bank protection (NRCS, Linn SWCD aided in 31,913 feet of the total)</li> <li>• 306 acres of irrigation upgrades (NRCS with EQIP funding, Linn SWCD helped on 47 acres of the total)</li> <li>• 24,296 feet water transference pipeline installed (Linn SWCD and NRCS)</li> <li>• 461 acres of prescribed grazing (NRCS with EQIP funding, Linn SWCD aided in 60 acres of the total)</li> <li>• 848 acres of irrigation water management (NRCS with EQIP funding, Linn SWCD aided in 120 acres of the total)</li> <li>• 506 acres of prescribed grazing management</li> </ul>

**Monitoring:**

- Linn SWCD has a working agreement with the South Santiam and Calapooia Watershed Councils to monitor water quality in both Watersheds
- ODA evaluates DEQ and local partner water quality monitoring data to establish status and trends
- ODA and the District monitoring of landscape conditions
- Monitoring of LMA priority area projects up to five years
- Monitoring of OWEB Small grant projects (landscape conditions, photo points, and site assessments)

**Funding and Grants: Total funding for biennium - \$784,276**

- OWEB small grant project funding –7 projects, 7 completed, 0 in progress: \$62,087
- NRCS EQIP Program – 55 contracts: \$722,189

**Summary of Impediments:**

New LAC members need to be appointed. It is difficult to know what water quality criteria is truly attributable to agricultural activities as opposed to other sources, especially for mercury and nitrates.

**Recommendations for Modifications:**

Report monitoring progress by watershed to capture the unique needs of each. The LAC wants better information about mercury and nitrates and what is attributable to agricultural activities.

**DEQ Recommendations:**

Consider the South Santiam for a PSP and continue work to refine measurable objectives, timelines, and milestones.

**Enforcement:**      *Letter of Compliance - 1*      *Water Quality Advisory - 3*      *Letter of Warning - 2*  
                                 *Notice of Noncompliance - 1*      *Civil Penalty - 0*      *Alternative Measures - 0*

**Total Complaints: 7**