



Management Area: Willowa

Meeting Date(s): March 30, 2016

LAC Members Present: Kevin Melville, Bruce Dunn, Bob Stangle

Implementation Summary:

Outreach and Education:

- Chief Joseph Summer Camp
- Poster Contest – “Local Heroes: Your Hard Working Pollinators”
- Monthly Radio Show
- Fourth Grade Foresters
- Fair and Hells Canyon Mule days
- Water Quality Tours
 - ODA, DEQ and OCA
 - Board of Agriculture
- Kokanee Festival
- Watershed Festival
- Sixth Grade Tour
- Newsletter

Planning and Projects:

	Size	Description	Funding Source
Weed Control – Leafy Spurge	200 ac	Herbicide, bio control and grazing	OWEB, EQIP, APHIS, Landowner
Weed Control – Meadow Hawkweed	13,284 ac	Herbicide	EQIP, Landowners
Pipelines *	Serves 1,652 ac. 33,364 ft pipe	Open spur ditches to pipelines, VFDs	EQIP, OWEB, Landowners
Forest Thinning	530 ac	Thin overstock stands	EQIP, OWEB, Landowners
Water Developments *	2	Frost free troughs, pipelines	OWEB, Landowners
Efficient Irrigation	2,360 ac.	Conversion to more efficient sprinklers, new nozzles	EQIP, Landowners
No-till planting	1,655 ac	Planting using no-till	EQIP, Landowners
Riparian Fence	10,080 ft	Fenced off creek on both sides	CREP, Landowners
Riparian plantings	25.9 ac	Tree & shrub establishment	CREP, Landowners
Irrigation diversion	3	Headgate, culvert, pipe, automated headgate	EQIP, OWEB, BOR, SWCD, OWRD, Landowners
River meandering	600 ft	Installing rearing channels and pools	BPA, OWEB
Range seeding	1,400 ac	Seeding areas burnt in the Grizzly fire and seeded areas where medusa head was treated	EQIP, OWEB, Landowners

* Projects located in Prairie Creek Focus Area

Monitoring:

The Prairie Creek Watershed had water quality monitoring samples taken at six sites during both the 1991-1993 and 2012-2015 studies. The repeat sampling capture changes in the Prairie Creek Watershed over the last 20 years. The parameters that were sampled during both studies included pH, turbidity, phosphorous, nitrogen, and fecal coliform.

Funding and Grants:

- Landowners - \$506,000
- NRCS (EQIP, CSP) - \$1,700,000
- OWEB (small grants) - \$19,883
- OWEB (large grant) - \$1,021,274
- BPA - \$300,000
- County (Weeds) - \$20,000

Progress Measurement: Focus Area Summary

The *Prairie Creek Water Quality Monitoring – Final Report 2016*, documents water quality improvements in Prairie Creek compared to the earlier monitoring study. Significant improvements were made in turbidity, phosphorus, nitrogen, and bacteria (fecal coliform). Improvements are attributed to the implementation of Best Management Practices by landowners including:

- Managing irrigation to reduce runoff including converting from flood to sprinkler and updating to more efficient systems
- Increasing size and number of buffers along streams and major ditches
- Reducing livestock feed lots along Prairie Creek and its tributaries
- Install off-stream watering for livestock
- Planting cover crops
- Applying nutrients at the proper time and using the proper amounts
- Eliminating s pur ditches that potentially carry runoff into Prairie Creek

Summary of Impediments:

LAC members identified new sub-divisions, new small acreage operations, and lack of sufficient funding as impediments to Continued improvement of water quality.

Recommendations for Modifications:

Milestones and timelines were added to the goals/objectives section and Prevention and Control Measures were merged with the Prohibited Conditions in the Strategies for Implementation Section.

DEQ Recommendations:

None

Enforcement:	<i>Letter of Compliance -0</i>	<i>Water Quality Advisory -0</i>	<i>Letter of Warning -0</i>
	<i>Notice of Noncompliance -0</i>	<i>Civil Penalty -0</i>	<i>Alternative Measures -0</i>
Total Complaints:	0		

Notes: