

# NRD WATER QUALITY PROGRAM AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA BIENNIAL REVIEW SUMMARY SUBMITTED BY THE LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Management Area: Umatilla

### Meeting Date(s): December 5, 2012

LAC Members Present: Jim Harris (chair), Jack Mills, Jeff Newtson, Robin Fletcher, Bob Lazinka, Gus Wahner, Dan Mills, Chris Williams

# Implementation Summary:

Outreach and Education: 1,784+ Landowner contacts

- 4 Public Displays 188 attendees
- Monthly Newsletters (6,012 mailed & electronic) and Press Releases
- 10 Workshops (720 attendees) Sustainable Agriculture, Backyard Landscaping, Irrigation/ Water Savings, Native Plants, Small Acreage Landowners
- Project Tours Meacham Creek restoration project, Birch Creek diversion projects, OWEB project proposals
- Youth Education Watershed Field Days, Pendleton Outdoor School, Salmon Walk (serving over 23 schools and 1,600 kids)
- Website established and kept up-to-date
- Lower Umatilla Basin GWMA participate in irrigated ag, rural residential, and communication subcommittees

## Planning and Projects:

- Conservation practices implemented:
  - Upland improvements
  - Habitat improvements
  - Spring developments
  - o Fencing
  - Fish passage
  - Irrigation efficiency
  - Riparian improvements and plantings
- Water quality improvements applied to 7026 acres using USDA programs such as EQIP, CSP, CREP, and/or CRP. These practices include but not limited to conservation crop rotation, residue and tillage management, critical area planting, prescribed grazing, conservation cover, and irrigation water management
- Working with landowners and businesses in LUB GWMA dealing with groundwater issues in the rural residential area.
- Meeting with Umatilla Basin Water Commission and Water Coalition to oversee groundwater recharge projects and develop a water transaction program.

#### Monitoring:

- LAC reviewed 2011 Umatilla Basin Water Quality Summary prepared by the Umatilla Basin Watershed Council and Water Quality Data Analysis prepared for UBWC by GeoEngineers. The Umatilla Basin WQ Technical Team has completed a Long Term Monitoring Plan, supports WQ monitoring efforts and annually reviews basin water quality data.
- 12 project monitoring reports for previously installed restoration projects.

# Funding and Grants:

- 26 Grant proposals submitted/10 grant proposals funded
- Funds received from OWEB, NRCS, ODA, CTUIR, ODFW, and others

# • DEQ 319 grant for LUB GWMA outreach

#### **Progress Measurement:**

- Current focus area (Gerking Creek) selected by LAC,
- Future focus areas selected: Birch Creek and Wildhorse Creek
- Management area assessment for compliance with waste, erosion and riparian rules will be completed by 2016

**Summary of Impediments:** LAC members reported concerns regarding water quality impacts due to future energy project developments (i.e. power lines, wind towers on fragile lands, biomass production and removal) and irrigation efficiency measure impacts to groundwater nitrate concentrations.

**Recommendations for Modifications:** The Area Plan was modified to strengthen the goals and objectives, to update water quality standards and TMDL information, and add an expanded monitoring discussion to cover focus areas and management area assessments.

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