

**MONTHLY MEETING  
AGENDA  
Grant Soil and Water Conservation District  
December 1, 2016**

**ADMINISTRATION**

1. 4:00 PM - Call Meeting to Order
2. Approval of Minutes – November
3. Introduction of visitors
4. Public Input (5 minute limit)

**REPORTS – (5 minute limit or request agenda item)**

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| 5. NRCS – Lorraine Vogt             | 13. ODA – Maria Snodgress              |
| 6. OSU Ext. – Shanna Northway       | 14. USFS MNF – Vacant                  |
| 7. BOR - Mark Croghan, BOR Liaison  | 15. Freshwater Trust – Spencer Sawaske |
| 8. JD Basin Trust – Shaun Robertson | 16. USFWS – Dirk Renner                |
| 9. ODFW Wildlife – Ryan Torland     | 17. NFJDWC – Elaine Eisenbraun         |
| 10. ODFW Fisheries – Trever Watson  | 18. SFJDWC – Amy Stiner                |
| 11. ODFW Fish Habitat – Russ Powell | 19. Monument SWCD – Bryan Vogt         |
| 12. CTWSR of OR – Amy Charette      | 20. OWEB – Sue Greer                   |

**DISTRICT BUSINESS – (Items requiring Board action or of immediate interest)**

21. Executive Session – ORS 192.660(2)(i) – To evaluate the performance of an officer, employee or staff member.
22. Other
23. Other

**DISTRICT PROGRAMS – (Highlights and significant items reported in writing)**

24. Weed Control
25. CTWSR of OR/BPA Project Summary
26. ODFW Contract Projects
27. OWEB Grants
28. Title II Program

**FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

29. Audit (Performed Nov. 7-9)
30. Financial Reports/Financial Summary (Directors Notebooks)
31. Approve Bills – November

**6:00 PM – ADJOURN**

## PROGRAM STATUS REPORT TO DIRECTORS

### SUMMARY

November – The District hired Cole Winegar as its new Engineering Technician to replace Brad Armstrong who departed at the end of September. Cole grew up on Prairie City and received an Engineering Degree from Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls and was previously employed with Boise Cascade in Medford as the Assistant Regional Engineer. Cole will be starting work on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

The District's annual financial audit was also performed this past month. No discrepancies were discovered during the review and the auditor's report is scheduled to be issued by the end of the year, at which time it will be presented to the Board.

Construction operations on the Larson and McHaley Irrigation Projects advanced beyond the half way mark in November and are on schedule to be near completion by the middle of December.

Nov. 1 – Roger, Pat H. and Jason attended a Listening Session host by the conveners of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program. Program seeks to generate state sponsored financial and technical resources to assist efforts that preserve Oregon's Agricultural Working Lands. The District will prepare formal comments to present to the group.

Nov. 2 – Cole Winegar accepted the Engineering Technician Position with the District. He start date is scheduled for Dec. 5, 2016.

Nov. 3. – Levi and Jason met with the Tribes and other stakeholders that are coordinating a sequence of fish habitat and passage improvement projects within Fox Creek near the community of Fox, OR.

Nov. 7–9 – Oster Professional Group CPA's performed the annual audit of the District's financial records.

Nov. 10 – Jason made a site visit to the Azure Standard Orchard in Kimberly, to provide technical assistance to the property manager regarding the installation of a new irrigation pump station.

Nov. 17 – Jason attended the John Day Basin Partnership Meeting. The Group's technical advisory team is currently developing the final tasks and deliverable framework to be issued by the District in a professional services contract. This contract will secure the services of a qualified consulting firm to create a project prioritization guide for use by the partnership in ranking future projects proposals.

Nov. 18 – District opened proposals for supply of a solar powered pump trailer for use by the Malheur National Forest within their grazing program. One proposal was received from JWN Company from Prairie City, OR.

### PROGRAM STATUS

#### GRANT APPLICATIONS:

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##### 2016

- OWEB Fall 2016 Cycle, Watershed Restoration and Technical Assistance
  1. 2017 John Day Basin Fish Habitat Enhancement Program (\$147,000), **Pending**

- 2. Big Creek Reach 4 Floodplain Connectivity Project (\$200,000), **Pending**
- NRCS 2016 Regional Conservation Partnership Program
  - 1. Blue Mountains Vegetative Health Initiative (\$1,382,055), **Pending**
- OWEB Spring 2016 Cycle, Watershed Restoration and Technical Assistance
  - 1. Twelvemile Creek and Middle Fork JDR Riparian Enhancements (\$171,494), **Successful, Pending Agreement**
  - 2. Tom Colvin Ranch Middle Fork JDR Riparian Improvements (\$54,858), **Successful, Pending Agreement**
- USFS Title II 2015 & 2016
  - 1. Upper John Day Restoration Adaptive Management (\$92,010), **Successful, Pending Agreement**
  - 2. 50% Noxious Weed Treatment Cost Share Program (\$107,979), **Successful, Pending Agreement**
  - 3. N. Fork Malheur River Range Improvement Project (\$45,145), **Successful, Pending Agreement**
  - 4. Grazing Lands Noxious Weed Management Phase V (\$220,103), **Successful, Pending Agreement**
  - 5. Ritter Private Lands Collaborative – Landscape Restoration (\$250,000), **Unsuccessful**

## **NRCS REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM:**

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Sept. 19, 2016 - The District submitted the *Blue Mountains Vegetation Health Initiative Project* (\$1,382,055) to the NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) for consideration. If successful, this program itself would cost-share the performance of 4,000 acres of forest stand improvements and 1,200 acres of juniper removal, initiating in 2018.

Sept. 2, 2016 – Kyle and Jason attended a field trip with representatives of the Blue Mountains Forest Partners and the Forest Service to review current forest thinning strategies which are currently applied as part of the Malheur National Forest’s Stewardship Projects.

Aug. 15, 2016 – Kyle and Jason met with Mark Webb, Executive Director of the Blue Mountains Forest Partners to review partnership arrangements associated with the District’s “*Blue Mountains Vegetative Health Initiative Project*” application to the NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program. District is working to take some of the lessons learned through the Blue Mountains Forest Partners accomplishments on the Malheur National Forest and apply them within the context to improve fire resiliency and watershed health on adjacent private lands.

July 22, 2016 – District received notification for NRCS that its 2017 Regional Conservation Partnership Program Pre-Proposal had been selected for submission of Full-Proposal due September 19<sup>th</sup>.

May 10, 2016 – District submitted a pre-proposal application to the Natural Resource Conservation Service Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) titled *Blue Mountains Vegetative Health Initiative (\$685,125)*. Project proposes to strategically implement 3000 acres of pre-commercial thinning and juniper removal treatments on private lands adjacent to 3 Landscape Stewardship Projects sponsored by the Blue Mountains Forest Partners located on the Malheur National Forest.

Feb. 12, 2016 – District received notification that its 2016 RCPP application titled *John Day River Flow Improvement Project (\$5,238,110)* was not funded. The District will be working to resubmit a revised application once review comments are provided. District also anticipates coordinating more closely with Blue Mountain Forest Partners and their projects on Federal Lands.

Nov. 10, 2015 – The District submitted a full proposal to the NRCS 2016 Regional Conservation Partnership Program to fund *John Day River Flow Improvement Project (\$5,238,110)*. Project proposes to implement strategic juniper control (10K acres), forest thinning (5K acres), and annual grass restoration (6K acres) within the upper John Day River Basin with the goal of increasing summer river base flows at the USGS Gage site east of John Day.

Sept. 9, 2015 – The District received notification that it's NRCS 2016 Regional Conservation Partnership Program Pre-Proposal, *John Day River Flow Improvement Project (\$4,387,148)*, was selected for submission of the Full Application. The full application is due by Nov. 10, 2015.

## **OWEB:**

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Sept. 26, 2016 – Jason and Irene Jerome toured project sites with Sue Greer from OWEB, associated with the Mountain Creek Watershed Restoration Project. This project has provided cost-share to 8 landowners within the Upper Mountain Creek Watershed perform 660 acres of pre-commercial thinning.

Apr. 19, 2016 – District submitted two OWEB Restoration Grants for consideration in the Spring 2016 Grant Cycle. The *Twelvemile Creek and Middle Fork JDR Riparian Enhancements (\$171,494)* proposes to improve water quality conditions associated with a winter feeding operation by fencing livestock access away from 3.0 miles of the Middle Fork John Day River and lower 1.6 miles of Twelvemile Creek, installing two alternative off channel stock water systems, and removing juniper and controlling noxious within the effected project area. The *Tom Colvin Ranch Middle Fork JDR Riparian Improvements (\$54,858)* also seeks to improve water quality and riparian conditions along 4.3 miles of the Middle Fork John Day River by installing livestock protection fencing, constructing 4 spring developments to provide alterative water sources, and controlling noxious weeds.

Feb. 25, 2016 – Pat and Jason participated in the Focused Investment Partnership Capacity Building Grant Teleconference with OWEB. District is providing fiscal agent services for the Grant to fund the complete a strategic action land for the John Day Basin Partnership.

Jan. 27, 2016 – District was notified that the OWEB FIP Capacity Building Grant submitted on behalf of the John Day Basin Partnership was ranked #2 and was fully funded by the OWEB Board at \$149,613. The District is providing fiscal sponsorship to this grant.

Dec. 11, 2015 – Jason along with Russ Powell and Nick Stiner cooperatively hosted the OWEB Region 6 Technical Review Team Tour of the John Day Basin Fish Habitat Enhancement Program Project.

Dec. 4, 2015 – Kyle, Matt, and Brad hosted the OWEB Region 6 Technical Review Team on a tour of the recently submitted restoration grant application for the Ballance and Lick Creek Riparian Enhancement Project.

Nov. 9, 2015 – District awarded the contract for the Aerial Seeding Services for the PWSWA Range Restoration Project to Applebee Aviation Inc. from Banks, OR. Project is scheduled to perform 3,314 acres of grass seeding in areas previously treated with a selective herbicide to control Medusahead Rye.

Oct. 20, 2015 – District submitted 2 OWEB Grants for consideration. The *John Day Basin Fish Habitat Enhancement Program (\$177,298)* proposes to construct 20.4 miles of riparian fence with the Basin. The *Ballance and Lick Creeks Riparian Enhancement (\$97,687)* seeks cost-share to implement fencing, constructed stock water systems, and treat noxious weeds to remove unrestricted livestock access to sections of streams during winter feeding periods.

Aug. 25, 2015 – Pat attended the reorganization meeting the John Day Small Grant Team governing the disbursement of funding for the 2015-17 biennium.

July 9, 2015 – District was notified by Sue Greer from OWEB that the *Phillip Schneider Wildlife Area Range Restoration* (\$255,358) Grant Application was Ranked #1 for funding by the Regional Technical Review Team.

June 4, 2015 – Kyle and Dan Marvin, manager of the Phillip Schneider Wildlife Area hosted the OWEB Regional Review Team for a tour of the Range Restoration Project which was submitted for consideration under the current cycle.

May 22, 2015 – District executed all agreements associated with the Fry Camp Aspen Enhancement Project, authorizing to the Landowner to begin implementation of reimbursable project activities. Project is scheduled to be complete by October 31, 2017.

Apr. 21, 2015 – District submitted 2 OWEB Grants for consideration. The *Phillip Schneider Wildlife Area Range Restoration* (\$255,358) proposes to complete 4,040 of seeding and construction of 2 miles of aspen protection fencing to advance beneficial recovery of strategic areas burned and treated for control of annual grasses in 2014. The *Lower Pine Creek Restoration* (\$194,431) seeks cost-share to implement fish passage and irrigation efficiency improvements at five diversions and one culvert along Pine Creek to compliment completed riparian fencing, juniper removal, noxious weed control, and fish screen conservation actions.

Mar. 23, 2015 – Kyle and Jason toured the annual grass control project occurring on the Phillip Schneider Wildlife Area with Manager Dan Marvin of ODFW, Amy Stiner, Coordinator of the Upper SF Watershed Council and members of the OWEB Regional Grant Review Team. The District is working with ODFW and Watershed Council to submit an OWEB Grant Application to support restoration seeding, aspen protection fencing, and project effectiveness monitoring.

Mar. 1, 2015 – District executed project agreements and permit applications associated with the Upper South Fork John Day Riparian Fence Project, OWEB Grant #215-6009. District will be contracting the installation of rock hardened livestock stream crossings associated with construction of riparian fencing by the landowner along 1.4 miles of the South Fork. Project is scheduled to be implemented during the 2015 in-stream work period.

### **ODFW Cooperative Agreement:**

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Aug. 10, 2016 - District publically opened bids for the Desolation Creek 2016 Fence Project. Brad Browning from Seneca was the successful bidder.

Aug. 3, 2016 – District hosted a bid tour for the revised Desolation Creek 2016 Fence Project to construct 5.0 miles of riparian fencing. One contractor was in attendance.

June 30, 2016 - Due to budget restraints, the award of the Desolation Creek Fence Project Contract was cancelled. The District plans to revise the scope the project and rebid the project at a later date.

June 23, 2016 - District hosted a bid tour for the Desolation Creek Fence Project to construct 9.3 miles of riparian fencing. One contractor was in attendance.

June 9, 2016 - District publically opened bids for the Murderers Creek Fence Project. Timber Basin Contractors LLC from Mt. Vernon was the successful bidder.

May 31, 2016 - District hosted a bid tour for the Murderers Creek Fence Project to construct 6.8 miles of riparian fencing. Three contractors were in attendance.

May 12, 2016 - District publically opened bids for the Tex Creek Fence Project. Timber Basin Contractors LLC from Mt. Vernon was the successful bidder.

May 5, 2016 - District hosted a bid tour for the Tex Creek Fence Project to construct 5.3 miles of riparian fencing. Three contractors were in attendance.

Apr. 14, 2016 - District publically opened bids for the Fields Creek – Martin Fence Project. Timber Basin Contractors LLC from Mt. Vernon was the successful bidder.

Apr. 5, 2016 – District hosted a bid tour for the Fields Creek – Martin Fence Project to construct 0.9 miles of riparian fencing. Three contractors were in attendance.

Mar. 29, 2015 – District executed ODFW Agreement #122-16 in the amount of \$184,773, to provide contract administration to implement 25 miles of new riparian fence construction and noxious weed control services for existing fence projects in 2016.

### **ODA Focus Area:**

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Oct. 20, 2016 – Jason met with a property owner within the Warrens Creek Focus Area. The parties reviewed potential options to obtain cost-share to support the construction of a riparian fence along the John Day River and install a winterized stockwater system to serve the affected pasture areas. The District will be helping the landowner assemble an OWEB Small Grant Application to seek financial assistance to construct the riparian fence component of proposed activities.

Mar. 11, 2016 – The District also mailed out its targeted outreach package to 54 ownerships within the Warrens Creek Focus Area to present information regarding the ODA Agricultural Water Quality Management Program, the associated regulations, and the Focus Area Process.

Nov. 5, 2015 – Theresa DeBardelaben, ODA Regional Water Quality Specialist presented her streamside vegetation assessment findings for the Warrens Creek Watershed, the new ODA selected Focus Area for the District. Of the 403 acres selected for assessment, 1.25 acres (0.3%) were considered to qualify as Bare-Ag and 197 acres (49%) were categorized as Grass-Ag. Both conditions are considered by ODA to offer opportunities to increase the quantity of shrub and tree vegetation to enhance water quality functions near streams and waterbodies. The District will be working to implement strategic outreach to area landowners to apprise and offer relative assistance regarding Oregon’s Agricultural Water Quality Management Program later this winter.

June 8, 2015 – ODA notified the District that they had selected the Warrens Creek Watershed as the new Agricultural Water Quality Focus Area. Warrens Creek is located approximately 6 miles west of Mt. Vernon and includes 4 miles of the Upper Mainstem John Day River and several of its tributaries including Warrens Cr., Picnic Cr., Goen Cr., No Name Cr., Dustin Cr., Waterspout Gulch, and Graveyard Gulch.

### **Oregon Sage-Grouse Counties CCAA:**

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Oct. 7, 2016 – District received a Letter of Clarification from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to be attached to S:\BoardMeetingAgenda\2016

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Grant County's Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) for the Greater Sage-Grouse. Letter addressed these three clarifications of the CCAA: (1) defined "persistently unsuitable habitat"; (2) revised the nomenclature used to describe the state and transition ecological models; and (3) clarified the reporting requirement regarding presentation of a map that does not show the actual location of enrolled acres.

Dec. 21, 2015 – Jason participated in a conference call associated with the development of Site Specific Management Plans as part of the Sage Grouse CCAA Agreements. Recent interpretations by the USFWS are now requesting District planners to assess areas lying outside of ODFW designated sage grouse habitat areas within a cooperators property and determine if these areas qualify as habitat, or they will not extend the CCAA protections to these locations. Current planning staff are very reluctant to take on this role, similar to the water quality focus area assessments, while acting as a representative of a District and feel this is a regulatory overreach by USFWS.

Sept. 22, 2015 – The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that the Greater Sage Grouse does not warrant protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). They credited the unprecedented voluntary conservation efforts across the west as justification for their decision. CCAA Agreements and resulting conservation programs are expected to continue without disruption.

June 8, 2015 – Jason participated in a planning meeting of the All Oregon Counties CCAA Partnership to coordinate the completion of an OWEB Focused Investment Partnership Grant Application. Group will be working to submit a Phase I application by the July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

May 14 – Jason attended NRCS workshop in Burns to discuss the processes by which the Sage Grouse RCPP Grant will be administered by NRCS. Only CCAA Participants will be eligible applying for Cost-Share to complete any number of 76 EQIP conservation practices prescribed by NRCS through their Sage Grouse Initiative Program. Three years of funding and associated sign up periods are anticipated.

Apr. 24, 2015 – District mailed outreach information regarding the availability of Sage-grouse CCAAs to 42 potentially affected Landowners within Grant County.

Mar. 18, 2015 – Jason and Boyd Britton traveled to the CCAA Signing Ceremony in Juntura, OR.

### **Ritter Collaborative:**

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Aug. 17, 2016 – Kyle and Jason participated in a phone conference with Patti Hudson and Emily Jane Davis representing the Ritter Land Management Team to review the accomplishments and deliverables accountable to the District's performance under its agreement with the Oregon Department of Forestry. The District has been assisting the Ritter Group in composing an initial strategic action plan and creating localized Geographical Information System (GIS) Data features. The District is planning to utilize a portion of the remaining agreement resources to apply for an OWEB Technical Assistance Grant to collect additional stream segment data (e.g. passage barriers, habitat conditions, etc.) to further expand the conservation opportunity data base within the Ritter Area.

Feb. 22, 2016 – Kyle attended meeting of the Ritter Collaborative Operations Committee to present information regarding the development of an OWEB Restoration Grant Application by the District for submission during the Spring 2016 Cycle. Grant will provide strategic application of conservation attributes identified in the Ritter Collaborative Action Plan.

Nov. 4, 2015 – Kyle presented the Ritter Collaborative Strategic Action Plan to a full group meeting its members.

Sept. 16, 2015 – District Staff completed and submitted a Draft Strategic Action Plan for the Ritter Land Management Team to review and provide comments on. The District has been contracted by the Ritter Land Management Team to develop and finalize a plan to help prioritize and steer implementation of future conservation work to help attract potential funding partnerships to support prescribed plan actions.

Aug. 18, 2015 – Kyle reviewed his progress in composing the draft strategic action plan for the Ritter Collaborative with Curt Qual and Emily Jane Davis with Oregon State University Extension who are providing coordination services to the Group.

July 8, 2015 – Jason attended a partnership meeting with entities associated with the Ritter Collaborative to discuss the development of a potential Title II Grant proposal for the area. Options to address noxious weeds and juniper challenges was the preference of the Collaborative Steering Committee, however available cost-share is currently weighted towards addressing water quality issues. The preference of the District and ODFW would be to request the cost-share necessary to complete several of their planned projects within the area dealing with direct water quality issues, prior to implementing other conservation activities.

May 1, 2015 – Jason and Kyle conducted a pre-work meeting with Lane Parry Forestry Consultant LLC, which is providing professional forestry services to the Ritter Collaborative through a contract with the District and funded by Oregon Department of Forestry. The contractor will be performing natural resource evaluations of individual property's participating in the Ritter Collaborative. This landowner data will be used by the District to develop an area action plan to systematically address common resource concerns.

Feb. 13, 2015 – Kyle and Jason met with Irene Jerome to discuss opportunities for the District to author an area conservation action plan for the Ritter Collaborative Group. Irene has offered to provide professional forester services to assist in developing the silviculture management portions of the plan as a Part-time District Employee. This District is currently working to develop a financial support proposal for consideration by Oregon Department of Forestry to support the associated planning work.

Jan. 26, 2015 – Kyle made a presentation to the Ritter Collaborative Group, discussing formats and potential benefits from creating an area wide action plan. The District is funded through an agreement (\$13,500) with ODF to provide technical services to assemble GIS data and develop strategies to address the conservation needs of the area as defined by the Collaborative.

## **Title II**

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### **2016**

July 14, 2016 – Jason attended the Title II Regional Advisory Committee Meeting in Baker City to support the District's five applications. The *Upper John Day Restoration Adaptive Management (\$92,010)*, *50% Noxious Weed Treatment Cost Share Program (\$107,979)*, *N. Fork Malheur River Range Improvement Project (\$45,145)*, and *Grazing Lands Noxious Weed Management Phase V (\$220,103)* were fully funded. *Ritter Private Lands Collaborative – Landscape Restoration (\$250,000)* was ranked below the funding threshold and did not receive an award.

May 11, 2016 – Matt and Jason presented two Title II Grant Applications to the County Court for consideration for the 2017 funding year, the *Upper John Day Restoration Adaptive Management Program (\$92,010)* and the *50% Noxious Weed Treatment Cost Share Program (\$107,979)*.



Mar. 30, 2016 – The District submitted two 2016 Title II Grant Applications for consideration by the County Court and RAC. Projects included the *Upper John Day Restoration Adaptive Management (\$92,010)* to support the implementation of maintenance and improvement work at 15 existing District fish passage projects and the *50% Noxious Weed Treatment Cost Share Program (\$107,979)* to provide a 50% cost-share to landowners to have weed control services performed on their property and purchase herbicide/small application equipment for treatment of an estimated 2,200 acres of list county noxious weeds.

## **2015**

Dec. 9, 2015 – Matt and Jason attended the regular meeting of the Grant County Court to briefly present the attributes of the District's three submitted Title II Grant Proposals. The submittals included the *N. Fork Malheur River Range Improvement Project* to support the construction of 5 miles of riparian fencing to enhance Bull Trout Habitat on the Malheur National Forest, the *Grazing Lands Noxious Weed Management Phase V* to cost-share the continued control and limit the expansion of County priority noxious weeds, and the *Ritter Private Lands Collaborative – Landscape Restoration* to cost-share the initial implementation of conservation practices derived from the recently assembled Ritter Collaborative Strategic Action Plan.

Nov. 16, 2015 – The District submitted three Title II Grant Application for consideration by the County Court and RAC. Project included *N. Fork Malheur River Range Improvement Project (\$45,145)*, *Grazing Lands Noxious Weed Management Phase V (\$220,103)*, and *Ritter Private Lands Collaborative – Landscape Restoration (\$250,000)*.

## **2014**

Oct. 29, 2015 – The District hosted a landowner meeting for those interested in participating the Title II Funded Pine Creek Firewise Community Defensible Space Assistance Program. Qualified applicants will receive the opportunity to receive cost-share for performing prescribed wildfire fuels reduction practices around residential structures and along access roads. Signups will be received by the District until Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Cost-Share agreements are anticipated to be issued to qualified participants in December and January.

July 24, 2015 – This was the last day of work for the District's Summer Youth Crew. Thanks to the efforts of the associated Malheur National Forest Staff and Tereasa, the crew was able to safely and successfully perform a wide variety of project work on the Forest for the benefit range, fisheries, hydrology, silviculture, and wildlife resources.

July 16, 2015 – Kyle, Jason, and Irene Jerome met with Kirk Ausland from Oregon Department of Forestry to review the implementation of the District's Pine Creek Firewise Incentive Project. The District is working to begin advertising and enrolling participants this fall to cost-share the thinning and pruning of trees and brush to reduce the fire hazards within the community.

June 15, 2015 – The District's 2015 Summer Youth Crew started work which will continue for a six week period. The crew will primarily perform conservation activities on the Malheur Forest.

April 29, 2015 – District mailed out an introductory notification to associated landowners regarding the Pine Creek Firewise Community Fuel Reduction Incentive Program, scheduled to be rolled out later in the summer.

## **CTWSR of OR/BPA/BOR Fish Passage/Habitat Projects**

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### **McGirr Fox Creek Passage & Habitat**

BOR has provided LIDAR Survey information to the District for assisting in the preparation of a conceptual design (30%) in consultation with the landowners and associated stakeholders. Staff are currently creating potential project concepts for evaluation.

#### **Henslee Fox Creek Habitat Project**

BOR has provided LIDAR Survey information to the District for assisting in the preparation of a conceptual design (30%) in consultation with the landowners and associated stakeholders. Staff are currently creating potential project concepts for evaluation.

#### **Lemons Passage Project**

Tribes has provided LIDAR Survey information to the District for assisting in the preparation of a conceptual design (30%) in consultation with the landowner, irrigators, and associated stakeholders. Staff are currently creating potential project concepts for evaluation.

#### **Blue Mountain Diversion Adaptive Management**

Tribes has provided LIDAR Survey information to the District for assisting in the preparation of a conceptual design (30%) in consultation with the landowner, irrigators, and associated stakeholders. Staff are currently creating potential project concepts for evaluation.

#### **Belshaw Creek Passage & Habitat**

Tribes has provided LIDAR Survey information to the District for assisting in the preparation of a conceptual design (30%) in consultation with the landowner, irrigators, and associated stakeholders. Staff are currently creating potential project concepts for evaluation.

#### **Ricco Diversions**

Tribes has provided LIDAR Survey information to the District for assisting in the preparation of a conceptual design (30%) in consultation with the landowner, irrigators, and associated stakeholders. Staff are currently creating potential project concepts for evaluation.

#### **Lower McHaley Diversion**

The District awarded the construction contract to Morris Forestry from John Day for the pipeline portion of the project. Over 50% of the pipeline work has been complete and is on schedule to be completed near the middle of December. The 30% design for rehabilitating the abandoned Lower McHaley Diversion site is currently being developed into a final design and contract specification to support its implementation in the summer of 2017.

#### **Larson Berry and Canyon Creek Diversions**

The District awarded the construction contract to A.G. Ontko Contracting from Powell Butte. Approximately 60% of pipeline installation has been completed and should be finished by the end of December, with the pump station and diversion rehabilitation phases to happen in 2017.

#### **Adaptive Management Program**

The District was awarded a Title II Grant for \$92,010, to provide implementation resources to perform maintenance and adaptive management up-grades at 15 irrigation diversion project sites identified in the District's 2014 assessment report. Associated work activities are anticipated to occur over the next three years.

### **Other Projects/Programs**

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#### **BLM – Alder Creek Habitat Improvement Project Phase II**

Engineering Staff reviewed and approved proposed Phase II designs with BLM Representatives on site. The District is working to complete the final contract package and associated permit applications with an implementation target of October 2017.

#### **FOREST SERVICE – Big Creek Habitat Improvement Project**

District has assembled the 60% design and provide sponsorship in the composition of an OWEB Grant to cost-share the implementation next summer. Project proposes to reconnect a ½ mile reach of Big Creek with the adjacent flood plain by redistributing the confining mine tailing piles and constructing new side channel features.

END OF REPORT

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