

**McKenzie River Focus Watershed Coordination
Project No. 199607000**

**Year-End Report To:
Bonneville Power Administration**

Fiscal Year 2004

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**The Council's mission is to foster better stewardship of the
McKenzie Watershed resources through voluntary
partnerships and collaboration.**

McKenzie River Focus Watershed Program: BPA funding, in conjunction with contributions from numerous Partner organizations, supports the McKenzie Watershed Council's (MWC or Council) efforts to coordinate restoration, education, public outreach, and monitoring programs throughout the watershed. The McKenzie Watershed Council was formed in 1993 to help address watershed management issues in the McKenzie River watershed, as well as provide a framework for voluntary coordination and cooperation among key interests in the development and implementation of a watershed action program. This watershed program is strengthened by the completion of the BPA funded *Subbasin Assessment* and associated Ecosystem Diagnosis and Treatment (EDT), as well as the *Conservation Strategy* and related Benchmarks system and *Action Plans for Recreation, Human Habitat, and Water Quality and Fish & Wildlife Habitat*. Together these planning documents provide the MWC a prioritized framework for restoration efforts, as well as set a series of goals with targets and measurable indicators to track the Council's efforts and successes in reaching the desired future conditions for the watershed.

Objectives for FY04 included:

- 1) Continued successful coordination of McKenzie Watershed program among diverse groups and stakeholders with a focus on the lower McKenzie, including private lands and the McKenzie-Willamette confluence area;
- 2) Influenced behavior of watershed residents and users to benefit watershed function through a strategic and comprehensive public outreach and education program, utilizing *Subbasin Assessment* and *Conservation Strategy* information to provide a context for prioritized action;
- 3) Continued maintenance and sustainability of a highly functional watershed Council, including securing other funding for watershed restoration, education, public outreach, monitoring and Council operations; and
- 4) Maintained and improved water quality concerns through the continuation of Council-sponsored monitoring and evaluation programs.

McKenzie Watershed Fast Facts:

- The McKenzie Watershed provides drinking water to over 200,000 Lane County residents; the water is recognized as some of the highest quality in nationwide. According to the 2001 Oregon Water Quality Index, five of the top ten monitoring sites exhibiting the highest water quality in the state were located in the McKenzie Watershed.
- The last native run of Upper Willamette spring Chinook salmon occurs in the watershed along with listed bull trout and Oregon chub.
- The watershed is home to hundreds of species of wildlife, many have either state or federal status. Some of these species include; western pond turtle, red-legged frog, and bald eagle.
- The watershed is 1,300 square miles in size with the USFS, BLM, private timber companies and rural residential lands comprising most of the ownership.
- The watershed drains westward from the crest of the Cascade Range to its confluence with the Willamette River north of the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area.



McKenzie Watershed Council Fast Facts:

- The Council serves as an advisory body to decision-makers.
- The Council serves as a forum for discussion for watershed concerns.
- The Council coordinates restoration and monitoring among diverse interests.
- The Council provides education and outreach materials regarding river health and management practices.

- The Council is comprised of 20 diverse stakeholder groups. Council Partner organizations include: At-Large (2), City of Eugene, City of Springfield, East Lane Soil and Water Conservation District, Eugene Water & Electric Board, Hynix Semi-Conductor, Lane County, McKenzie Flyfishers Association, McKenzie Valley Residents Association, McKenzie River Trust, McKenzie School District, Mohawk Watershed Partnership, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Division of State Lands, Springfield Utility Board, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, and Weyerhaeuser Company.

PLANNING AND DESIGN ACCOMPLISHMENTS ¹

FY04 Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) funds enabled the McKenzie Watershed Council (MWC or Council) to successfully maintain restoration, education, public outreach and monitoring programs among diverse interests and stakeholders throughout the McKenzie Watershed. The Council continued to gain momentum throughout the year, as well as achieve innovative perspectives with new Partners and Staff becoming involved with MWC activities. The 2004 Work Plan outlined goals and objectives of Council programs and activities and has been successfully implemented continue to the mission of fostering better stewardship through voluntary and collaborative partnerships.

Coordination funds from the BPA enabled the MWC to hold 11 meetings; including one day-long retreat hosted by the Council. Monthly MWC meetings are attended by both Partners and community members, offering an excellent opportunity to share watershed information, as well as discuss current issues affecting watershed resources. The annual retreat offers Council Partners the opportunity to come together to discuss and adopt the annual Work Plan. The Work Plan guides Council activities and is organized into 7 areas: Organizational, Fish and Wildlife, Water Quality, Recreation, Human Habitat, Education and Public Outreach. The retreat is also a time for reflection and discussion between Partners regarding Council capacity. At the 2004 retreat, Council Partners adopted a revised Charter. Within these revisions was the decision to include two At-Large Partners on the Council to represent the community.



With the onset of FY04, the MWC officially adopted a non-profit, incorporated organization. The “McKenzie Watershed Alliance” is being developed as the legal fiscal arm of the Council. In addition to diversifying Council fundraising opportunities, the new organization structure will provide protection to Partner organizations. As outlined in the FY04 Work Plan, the MWC began development of a Business Plan. This Plan will help diversify the fiscal component of the Council and ensure its longevity. The components of the Business Plan include 1) forming a direct link from the Council’s strategic plan to other types of planning, and 2) providing an operational framework which correlates MWC human and financial resources with both the strategic vision (MWC Benchmarks) and mission. The benefit of completing a business plan include leveraging resources, providing a blend of expectations about multiple factors, measuring outcomes, as well as identifying and evaluating both risk and opportunities. The ultimate goal of a Business Plan is to close the gap between where the Council is today and where we want to be in upcoming years. The Council expects to adopt the final MWC Business Plan by the end of 2004. Support from BPA funded this very important process.

¹ Task 1.7 accomplishments have been incorporated into the Operation and Maintenance portion of this report; Tasks 1.6 and 1.8 are incorporated into the Monitoring and Evaluation section.

The MWC's FY04 Work Plan also adopted the task of reviewing some of the founding documents of the Council. In particular, the Council was interested in reviewing the following Action Plan documents: *Recreation, Human Habitat, and Water Quality and Fish & Wildlife Habitat*. It must be noted that in 2002, the Council adopted a Conservation Strategy for the watershed. The *Conservation Strategy* builds upon the Action Plan for Water Quality and Fish and Wildlife Habitat. The *Conservation Strategy* provides additional prioritized geographic, restoration, and funding framework for conducting habitat restoration in the watershed. The Action Plan did not provide these resources. The evaluation of the *Action Plans* provided the Council with specific recommendations to incorporate into future MWC Work Plans.

On numerous occasions, the Council met with local legislators and provided updates on the McKenzie Focus program, as well as education on watershed issues. Legislators and/or their staff attended many MWC monthly meetings or other Council sponsored events. In June 2004, the Council conducted a restoration site tour, inviting local, state and federal elected officials and decision makers. The Council plans to conduct annual restoration site tours to encourage education about the economic and ecological incentives of restoration work. The Council was also involved in a joint effort by Lane County's five watershed councils in a presentation to the Lane County Board of Commissioners.

The Council's McKenzie-Willamette Confluence Steering Committee continued its work in 2004 by holding several meetings, developing future projects and implementing restoration projects. BPA funds enabled the MWC to continue its coordination and leadership role in this nationally recognized process, through the Bush Administration's Initiative entitled the Oregon Agreement. The Confluence Steering Committee is comprised of the major business interests, aggregate producers, along with other property owners and regulatory agencies. Their mission is to find common ground solutions that enhance fish and wildlife values of this important area while protecting valuable business interests that help sustain Lane County. The Committee agreed in concept to future restoration projects. Concurrently, the committee began development of a side channel restoration project located on an aggregate producers land. The project will ultimately benefit rearing spring Chinook salmon and the western pond turtles. In addition, work was continued on the 2003 alcove project including sampling that showed the native fish community has become increasing complex.

The McKenzie Focus Program success and sustainability relies on facilitating and promoting grassroots efforts to collaborate on watershed restoration and education. In doing this, the Council helps form subwatershed groups to carry out the Council's mission. An example of this is the 6 year existence of the Mohawk Watershed Partnership. The Mohawk watershed is a priority restoration area for the Council, and the Mohawk community has rallied to address water quality and fish passage problems. Much of the MWC restoration program is focused on the Mohawk, with BPA providing funds to employ a part-time watershed coordinator for the Mohawk/Marcola community. The Mohawk-McKenzie relationship is a model for accomplishing grassroots watershed restoration that addresses the overall health concerns of the larger McKenzie Watershed. Accomplishments by the Mohawk Partnership have been submitted monthly to the BPA.



Mohawk residents learn about MWP activities

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPLEMENTATION ²

The McKenzie Watershed Council works continuously to positively influence watershed residents and users behavior to benefit watershed resources and functions. To this end, the Council provides watershed education and outreach information to residents, property owners, and businesses. In FY04, the Council rose awareness through workshops, tours, forums, and newsletters. The Council also began a monthly column, McKenzie Meanderings, in a local watershed newspaper to disseminate watershed-related information to community residents. The column written by Council Partners and Staff offers helpful watershed improvement tips, as well as updates on Council activities. The Council's visibility and relationship to the McKenzie community is enhanced tremendously by this form of outreach. BPA funds are also utilized in production of the Council's newsletter. Activities of the Council are summarized in the 8 page newsletter along with providing best-management tips. Over 5,000 households receive the newsletter. In FY04, the Council also revised its brochure and website to more adequately reflect Council goals and activities to the public.



A primary goal of the MWC is to collaboratively share information with McKenzie watershed stakeholders and community members. To this end the Council sponsored its annual landowner workshop. The workshop is targeted to streamside, rural residential property owners in an effort to educate and encourage better management practices. The 2004 event focused on exotic species within the watershed and methods of eradication. Over 30 people participated in this year's workshop which consisted of classroom presentations by native plant experts along with tours at 3 locations to see phases of exotic plant eradication by local property owners.

Native plant nurseries donated plants as gifts to participants. Returned evaluations from workshop participants continue to show the benefits of the workshops. It is the Council's goal that participants are now practicing better management practices on their lands.

Another Council method of sharing information with community residents is to conduct and sponsor events throughout the watershed. The Council, in collaboration with Lane County Parks, conducted park improvements as part of the statewide Down-by-the Riverside event. The MWC's 2004 Annual River Cleanup event saw over 50 volunteers cleaning up 55 miles of the McKenzie River. Once again hundreds of pounds of trash, along with some very interesting items were collected by participants. This 30 year old event always brings McKenzie residents together. Other community events sponsored by the Council include two Adopt-A-Highway cleanup events and two Adopt-A-River cleanup events.



River Cleanup Volunteers

With a large portion of the McKenzie Watershed being rural, there is not the availability of disposal sites that allow proper disposal of household hazardous waste. Residents have to make an appointment at the disposal site in Eugene, almost an hour away in some cases, to dispose of oil-based paint, old pesticides, and other items that can be harmful to the McKenzie's water quality if not disposed of properly. To address this inconvenience, the Council collaborated with the Mohawk Watershed Partnership, Marcola Fire Department and Lane County Waste Disposal to sponsor a Household Hazardous Waste Roundup Day in early FY04. Another, similar

² Task 2.9 accomplishments are incorporated into the Monitoring and Evaluation section of this report.

event is currently being planned for the early portion of FY05 at an upper McKenzie watershed location.

The Council sponsored a new event this year, an Open House event for all Council Partner organizations conducting on-the-ground work within the watershed. The purpose of the event was to offer community members the opportunity to meet people and agencies conducting work to improve the watershed. For all these events donations of food and prizes were provided by numerous businesses. The MWC also attends a number of community events (e.g., Leaburg and Walterville Community Fairs) in order to better communication with McKenzie Watershed residents.



Friends of Leaburg Lake Association.

In an effort to develop new grassroots watershed organizations the Council met with a number of watershed residents. The Friends of Leaburg Lake Association (FOLLA) has been working with the Council to increase its organizational capacity and potentially become a subbasin group (McKFISH). Conversations with Cedar Creek (a tributary of the McKenzie River) residents have also been initiated. The Council also provides support to other McKenzie community organizations; including the McKenzie Chamber of Commerce, McKenzie Arts

MWC Open House Event Forum, and

The Council's Executive Committee has begun developing a process to award presentations to both business and resident's conducting good watershed practices within the McKenzie watershed. The Council hopes to award these efforts on an annual basis.

The Council continued to conduct riparian, fish and wildlife, and water quality education within local schools. The Council, as a coordinating body, serves to help coordinate watershed education among stakeholders on key watershed health issues. The Council's Education Program focuses on three districts: Springfield (urban) and two smaller rural school districts (Mohawk, McKenzie) in Marcola and McKenzie Valleys. All of the school districts see the McKenzie watershed as a great learning laboratory, and in today's educational climate of budget cutbacks and state testing; teachers are stretched to the maximum. The MWC has been offering support in teaching watershed health issues over the past six years. Without this support, the subject on watershed health is often over looked.

The Council's Education Program relies, in part, on BPA funds to help educate students (K-12) and teachers about the life cycle of the upper Willamette spring Chinook salmon. More importantly though, the education program focuses on what are the best management practices that individuals can do to improve conditions that will help fish and wildlife and improve water quality. There are 2 innovative games the Council uses to promote the messages of best

management practices; the McKenzie Watershed Salmon Game and the Salmon Picnic. Each year, the Council's Education Coordinator and community volunteers deliver numerous presentations to



students and adults using the games. In 2004 alone, over 1,750 students played and learned from these games.

The Council's Education Coordinator is also available to the McKenzie watershed schools to serve as a resource advisor to teachers. In this capacity, the Council works with the schools and makes arrangements to bring in resource specialists from agencies to help instruct classes on various natural resource topics. In FY04, the MWC Education Coordinator was asked to conduct a teacher workshop on the value of watershed education in Oregon schools. This was an honor to the Council's Education Coordinator who has been working with our organization for over 6 years.

The Council also facilitates field workshops to continue the instruction in a field setting (e.g., Forest Field Days and Salmon Watch). Here, data (e.g., fish, water quality, and habitat) is collected and analyzed by the students. These real world learning opportunities are well received and beneficial to the students, as well as helping develop students into future better watershed stewards. In this same capacity, the Council awards a \$1,000 (local match funds) scholarship to a graduating high school senior entering college to pursue an education in the natural resources field.



Student Volunteer Samples Creek

In FY04, the MWC conducted an evaluation of the Education Program. The review was conducted by local community members, teachers from the School Districts served, Council Partners and Staff. Area of focus for the review included: field trip support, teacher workshops and resources, classroom activities and support, macroinvertebrate studies, water quality monitoring. The review process helped prioritize Council activities with local School District needs and identify potential funding sources for the Education Program.

The McKenzie Watershed Council, in collaboration with the Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council, received an Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) grant to conduct targeted outreach to local media outlets with watershed stories. The overarching goal of this project was to better inform residents about McKenzie and Middle Fork Willamette watershed issues and the work of the councils by having related stories published and/or broadcast in area media. Tools and lessons from this effort were passed on to Council Staff, making better resources available to the MWC. In particular, the ability to write succinct press releases to attract media to Council activities and a media contact list for local and state media outlets.

Operation and Maintenance

BPA funding ensures watershed program administrative activities are successfully and responsibly maintained. Critical to the success of any organization is its ability to cover infrastructure costs associated with the fundamental operations of the organization. The McKenzie Focus Watershed Program is no exception, with BPA funds covering costs associated with phones, mailings, travel within the watershed, and meeting provisions. With the amount of communication needed for the McKenzie Focus Program, the program would cease to function in absence of these vital funds from BPA. In addition to supporting core operating expenses of the Council, BPA funds help leverage additional funding for McKenzie Watershed council operations and programs. Table 1 below shows the funds secured in FY04, which the BPA funds helped leverage.

The ability of the Council to keep track of the grant expenditures, as well as the reporting requirements to the grantors and BPA is enhanced by having Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development, Inc. serve as its fiscal agent. Cascade’s services include professional accounting, an annual audit, monthly account reports, reporting and legal advice. In working with large sums of public funds, these services are invaluable to the Council as well as its grantors; this is money well spent by the BPA.

The McKenzie Focus Program is structured by having multiple committees delegated to handle portions of the program. MWC Committees are described below please see Attachment 1 which diagrams the MWC framework for collaboration.

- Executive Committee - provides oversight to Council Staff
- Water Quality Committee - provides oversight to the Council’s award winning and comprehensive monitoring program
- Business Plan Committee - ad hoc group facilitating development of MWC financial strategy
- Education Committee - provides guidance to the Education Coordinator, advises the Council, and conducts scholarship program
- Cooperative Maintenance Partnership Committee - provides oversight to the recreation aspects of the Council’s program, as well as provides increased security at recreation sites along McKenzie corridor

Table 1 – FY04 McKenzie Watershed Council Budget

SOURCE	AMOUNT (\$)	PURPOSE
OWEB	96,264	Confluence Turtle Restoration
OWEB	12,584	Coordinated Media Outreach Program
OWEB	83,594	Watershed Restoration
OWEB	3,795	Spawning Education
OWEB	30,500	Basin Culvert Projects
OWEB	9,000	Private landowner projects (Small grants program)
Willamette Restoration Initiative	17,400	Subbasin Planning Coordination - EDT
Weyerhaeuser Company	3,500	Watershed Education
EWEB PIE II	13,730	Watershed Education and Monitoring
Bonneville Environmental Foundation	66,000	Planning for subwatersheds
U.S. Forest Service	3,000	Culvert Prioritization
BLM RAC	60,000	Culvert Replacement
City of Eugene	10,000	Local Match
City of Springfield	5,000	Local Match
Springfield Utility Board	3,000	Minutes Recording
Eugene Water & Electric Board	26,000	Local Match
In Kind Services	25,000 approx.	In Kind Services (e.g., Lane County = office rental; EWEB = provides meals at monthly meetings)
TOTALS = 11 different sources	468,367	
Local Match to MWC Grants	195,000	
BPA Coordination Funds FY04	127,133	BPA funds leveraged approximately 650K

- Technical Team - provides guidance to the watershed restoration program, including restoration activities at Green Island
- McKenzie-Willamette Confluence Steering Committee - implements comprehensive strategy for both flood/erosion protection and fish and wildlife habitat restoration projects

All of these committees are chaired by Council Staff, who assist the Council in implementation of the committee's recommendations along with the Council's annual work plan. BPA funds play a primary and key role by helping to fund staff, enabling the comprehensive watershed program to be well coordinated.

In FY04 the Council continued to maintain a MWC project database, a more comprehensive extension of the restoration projects database, in order to accurately track Council progress towards the desired future condition of the watershed. The data consolidated in this database helps coordinate the Council's restoration, education, public outreach and monitoring programs. The database organizes all Council activities in an easy-to-access manner that is directly linked with the Benchmark system. As part of the business planning process, a Benchmark analysis was conducted based on Council activities from January 2000 through June 2004. Please see the Appendix B for a summary of this analysis. This powerful tool has already increased the Council's ability to communicate with Partner organizations and potential funders.

The McKenzie Watershed Council was heavily involved with the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's subbasin planning process conducted throughout the Columbia Basin. The Council worked directly with the Willamette Restoration Initiative to ensure local involvement with the Ecosystem Diagnosis and Treatment (EDT) performed on the McKenzie River. The model was used, in concert with other watershed information, to help develop strategies for improving spring Chinook populations in the McKenzie. The Council's role in generating support for and facilitating meetings of local organizations and agencies was indispensable to the subbasin planning process.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

BPA funds enable the McKenzie Watershed Council to improve water quality and fish and wildlife habitat through its comprehensive monitoring and restoration programs. Over 200,000 Lane County residents receive their drinking water from the McKenzie Watershed. Efforts to protect this valuable resource are generated by the Council and its Partner organizations. In addition to facilitating quarterly Water Quality Committee meetings, the Council also helps disseminate water quality information through its website. In FY04, BPA funds enabled the Council to update its website to more accurately share water quality data with the public.



Throughout FY04 the Council continued to coordinate a comprehensive and award winning water quality program. BPA funds provide for the coordination of a partnership among US Forest Service, US Bureau of Land Management, US Army Corps of Engineer, Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB), US Geological Society, and OR Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for ambient water quality monitoring. This monitoring is conducted monthly on the mainstem McKenzie River at several locations. Resulting data is analyzed by DEQ annually with information being presented to the MWC along with distribution in the newsletter and other outlets. The annual report can be downloaded from the Council's website, along with all other documents produced by the MWC. Important trend information is being revealed from the monitoring along with providing the Council with good baseline information that has preceded the MWC's restoration program.

Another component of the Council's monitoring program is its model approach of utilizing students, through experiential learning, to collect water quality data on 4 tributaries to the McKenzie. BPA funds help coordinate data collection efforts among landowners, school programs, and the Council.

A threat to the drinking water supply comes from the potential of harmful runoff from urban development along the McKenzie corridor and from the City of Springfield. To address these threats, the Council has partnered with the EWEB, City of Springfield and Springfield School District's WELL/WET Program to conduct baseline water quality monitoring on Cedar Creek. For the last four of the eight years, the Council has relied on volunteer help from the Thurston HS Water Quality Monitoring Team. This team has been going out once a month, and running an average of ten tests at the seven sites; some of these sites include storm drains from the Thurston Area. Over the years data has shown that most of the pollutants entering Cedar Creek, in particular bacteria, come from these storm drains.

In trying to figure out what is causing the high bacteria levels, the WELL/WET Program received a grant from EWEB, to conduct further diagnostic testing in the 69th Street Storm Drain system. In January a new student team was added to the MWC's water quality monitoring team. In February, 2004 the team identified and tested eight sites within the 69th street area. The students also developed and distributed a flyer to educate residents in the Thurston Area.

The MWC has also developed a Cedar Creek Working Group to facilitate ongoing discussions regarding use of existing water rights, impacts of storm water discharges, protection of riparian areas, and maintenance and repair of existing revetments. BPA funds enable Council Staff to coordinate the meetings and efforts of the Group.

In addition to tributary monitoring conducted by the MWC and its Partner organizations, the Council also conducts a macroinvertebrate monitoring program. Reflecting the chemical, physical and biological conditions of a stream, the biological community is a powerful indicator of stream health. Since the mid 1990's the Council working in collaboration with partnering organizations has generated a baseline macroinvertebrate assessment of stream health in order to more accurately verify McKenzie River ecosystem health. BPA funds enabled the Council to coordinate the collection efforts of several hundred volunteers and Partner organizations. In FY04, the Council began development of a comprehensive five year macroinvertebrate monitoring plan to guide future sampling efforts

The role of the Council with the DEQ Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) plan has transformed into a public outreach capacity. The TMDL has the McKenzie listed as a water quality limited stream due to increased temperatures. DEQ will be releasing a Willamette TMDL in early FY05 that incorporates a basic Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) for all Willamette tributaries, including the McKenzie. The WQMP will designate management agencies responsible for implementation of the TMDL. In collaboration with the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), the Council will help disseminate information to the designated management agencies listed within the TMDL, therefore taking a lead role in implementation oversight of the WQMP.

For the past few years, the MWC has continued to plan, develop and implement Council sponsored restoration projects. BPA funds helped significantly in leveraging grant funds for the Council's restoration program (see Table 1). In 2004, the Council implemented and maintained over 15 projects located in high priority subwatersheds of the McKenzie. Throughout FY04 the MWC Restoration Program continued to flourish with an ever-increasing number of watershed residents

interested in becoming involved. FY04 BPA funds supported the Council's Restoration Coordinator who is responsible for assisting, coordination and providing oversight to the MWC protection and restoration program. The position is also responsible for developing and submitting protection and restoration grants to various funding organizations. The Council also enlists the support from local schools and organizations to monitor and maintain restoration MWC projects. The Council plans on establishing a Projects Committee in FY05 to help with development and prioritization of future restoration projects.



Riparian restoration and fencing project



Bank stabilization project



Exotic plant removal



Improved stream passage

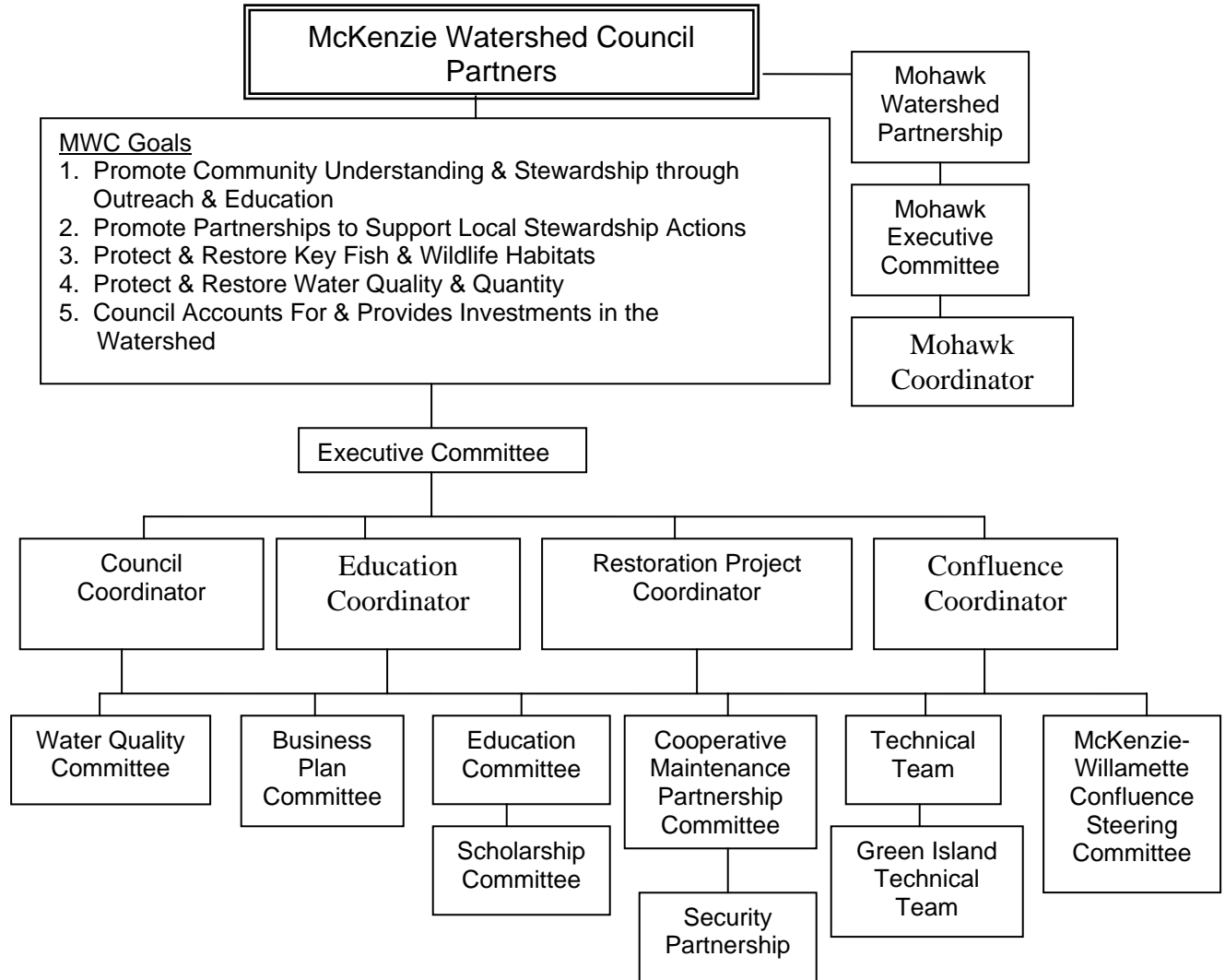
The McKenzie Focus program is also involved with identifying and addressing fish passage-barrier problems in the watershed. In FY04 the MWC partnered with the Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council secured funds to conduct a culvert prioritization in our respective watersheds. In concert with this particular effort, the MWC continues to partner with Lane County Public Works and the BLM for replacement of problem culverts throughout the McKenzie Watershed. This relationship with the County is being established so that the MWC can continue to secure design and materials money to address culverts, whereas the County will provide labor and equipment for the replacement work. Three fish passage projects were completed in FY04, with the fourth planned for the summer of FY05.

COORDINATION FOR THE FUTURE

Today the McKenzie Watershed Council continues to serve as a forum for exchanging information, a vehicle for resolving issues and as an advisory body to various government agencies with management authority within the 1,300-square-mile McKenzie River watershed. Working with its Partners and residents, the Council develops and implements habitat restoration projects throughout the watershed, works with area schools to develop watershed education programs for students, facilitates collaboration and sharing of water quality monitoring conducted within the watershed and focuses public outreach to residents of the McKenzie River watershed. As such the MWC continues to implement the goals of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds, a unique state-led, collaborative, grassroots conservation plan to restore salmon and watersheds. FY04 was an exceptional year for the Council in terms of implementation. This is due to BPA's continued commitment to fund the program and the ability of the program to leverage BPA dollars at greater than a 4 to1 ratio. The McKenzie Watershed Council's goals and activities continue to further the goals of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Program.

APPENDIX 1

McKenzie Watershed Council Framework for Collaboration



Appendix B

McKENZIE WATERSHED COUNCIL BENCHMARK ANALYSIS

The Council’s Benchmark system describes the desired future for the watershed in terms of fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, education, outreach, collaboration and partnerships among key stakeholders. The following analysis of the Council’s progress was conducted in July 2004 for the period of January 2000 through June 2004.

Goal I: Promote Community Understanding and Stewardship through Outreach and Education

Statement of desired condition: McKenzie Watershed residents, students, teachers, organizations, and user groups have knowledge about Council activities and key issues related to the health of the watershed and participate in monitoring and habitat improvement efforts. The above interests understand how their actions and efforts contribute to the quality of the watershed’s environment.

Benchmarks	Indicators	Indicators Progress	Status
<p>By 2020 (long-term), 80 percent of the McKenzie Watershed residents, organizations, students and teachers, and user groups are aware of the Council and its actions and understand important watershed issues and stewardship actions. The above interests actively participate in monitoring and habitat improvement efforts and understand how their actions contribute towards a healthy watershed.</p> <p>By 2010 (short-term) 60 percent of the McKenzie Watershed residents, organizations, students and teachers, and user groups are aware of the Council and its actions and understand important watershed issues and stewardship actions. The above interests actively participate in monitoring and habitat improvement efforts and understand how their actions contribute towards a healthy watershed.</p> <p>Elementary Students and Teachers within the McKenzie Watershed gain awareness of what a watershed is, how it functions, and what the key issues are. Secondary Students and teachers within</p>	1) Number of individuals attending Council meetings and other Council educational activities.	1) 3976	Ongoing
	2) Number of presentations given by Council Staff, Council Volunteers and Partners to organizations, user groups, and classrooms.	2) 130	Ongoing
	3) Number and hours of residents, students, teachers, organizations, and user groups devoted to participating in Council projects.	3) Volunteer hours: 8241	Ongoing
	4) Number of households and organizations receiving Council information (newsletters and other materials).	4) 2600	Ongoing
	5) Percentage of surveyed watershed residents and other stakeholders who express an understanding of watershed issues, stewardship actions, and Council activities.	5) 3 Community Meetings were held in 2001 to discuss the McKenzie River Subbasin Assessment, as well as current and future MWC public outreach strategies.	Completed
	6) Assessment and needs survey results of teachers and school district programs that teach about watershed education in Elementary and Secondary schools throughout the watershed.	6) An assessment of the MWC Education Program was conducted in 11/2004 and included a survey of McKenzie and Springfield School District needs.	Ongoing

<p>the McKenzie Watershed understand the function of a watershed, and how their actions affect a watershed, and participate in watershed monitoring and habitat restoration efforts.</p>			
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Goal II: Promote Partnerships to Support Local Stewardship Actions

Statement of desired conditions: Community-wide stewardship actions focus on restoring and protecting key fish and wildlife habitats and addressing water quality concerns. The Council and Partner organizations provide information, technical advice, and assist in obtaining funding to support watershed stewardship efforts for all Community Conservation Areas, (for example Cedar Creek and the Mohawk Partnership), organizations, and individuals wishing to engage in voluntary actions.

- Collaboration with Council Partners and other organizations supports: 1) coordinated watershed-wide habitat restoration and protection; 2) an integrated monitoring and research effort that targets key issues; 3) fostering community understanding and stewardship actions; and 4) management of a coordinated and comprehensive volunteer workforce program to support watershed/community stewardship efforts.

Benchmarks	Indicators	Indicators Progress	Status
<p>By 2020 funding and technical support for Community Conservation Area groups and individuals asking for assistance for watershed stewardship actions is provided where possible. Community Conservation Area Action Plans are developed for all of the <i>Conservation Strategy</i> Community Focus Areas by 2020.</p> <p>By 2010 Community Conservation Area groups are formed in all the <i>Conservation Strategy</i> community focus areas with at least 4 local Action Plans developed.</p>	<p>1) Number of active and supported Community Conservation Area groups engaged in watershed stewardship that restores and protects habitat.</p>	<p>1) 2</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>2) Number of individuals assisted with stewardship actions that restores and protects habitat.</p>	<p>2) 68</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>3) Number of developed action plans moving toward restoring and protecting habitat.</p>	<p>3) 5</p>	<p>Completed</p>
	<p>4) Number of individuals and hours devoted to participating in Council projects.</p>	<p>4) 112 individuals / 3640 hrs.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>5) Amount and diversity of funds (cash and in-kind) raised to support watershed restoration and protection efforts.</p>	<p>5) \$435,000 cash (8 sources) / \$235,000 in-kind = \$670,000 total</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

Goal III: Protect and Restore Key Fish and Wildlife Habitats

Statement of desired conditions: A network of high quality fish and wildlife habitats in the lower McKenzie watershed are protected and restored (please see definitions above for Protection and Restoration).

- These habitats will provide broad benefits to multiple species and different life-history stages (rearing, migration, and etc.) and contribute to protecting water quality and other ecological functions.
- Connections between terrestrial and aquatic habitats in the McKenzie River Watershed provide for the movement of aquatic life and terrestrial wildlife across the landscape, benefiting fish and wildlife populations and reducing the number of isolated populations.
- Agreements with landowners will help assure that key habitats targeted for restoration and protection are maintained through time, with an emphasis on utilizing programs that reasonably ensure long-term protection.

Habitat restoration and protection concentrates on these key habitats and processes:

- River and stream habitats and their connectivity
- Floodplain and riparian vegetation and their connectivity
- Wetlands
- Pond habitat (e.g., habitat that supports Pond Turtles)
- Upland habitats (i.e., oak woodlands, native prairie grasslands)

Benchmarks	Indicators	Indicator Progress	Status
By 2020 the Council and Partner organizations will implement 20 landowner agreements focused on protection (see methods below).	1) Acres of land area protected by habitat type.	1) See MRT and NRCS; the MWC does not do easement or acquisition.	N/A
By 2020 the Council and Partner organizations will implement 160 restoration projects (see methods below) targeting the five key habitat types above.	2) A net positive increase in key habitat types (baseline 2000 Subbasin Assessment)	2) Needs further study.	Planned
By 2010 there will be a net increase in the area of private lands protected and restored in the Lower McKenzie watershed.	3) Number of quality projects completed.	3) 11	Completed
By 2010, Council and Partner organizations will implement 60 restoration projects focused on the five key habitats and habitat connections.	4) Number of aquatic passage barriers replaced.	4) 3	Completed
Methods for protection: 1) Title of land transferred to land conservancy or government agency with the primary objective of conservation; areas in fees simple purchase, remainder interests, areas in conservation easements, acquisition, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, or other programs with conservation objectives. 2) The area meets project objectives to sustain ecological processes and there is ongoing maintenance.	5) Estimate of the length/acres of aquatic habitat reconnected.	5) 8 miles	Ongoing
Methods for restoration: 1) The area meets the project's restoration objectives for sustaining ecological/physical processes based on project effectiveness monitoring.	6) Length/acres of key riparian, aquatic, and terrestrial habitats restored.	6) 4 miles	Ongoing
Project Selection: To ensure the quality of restoration projects, the McKenzie Watershed Council IDT (Inter-disciplinary Team) will	Baseline data: 2000 McKenzie Subbasin Assessment, McKenzie Watershed Council data, McKenzie River Trust information, and aquatic passage inventory project		

evaluate the relative and individual merit of each project before proceeding with a particular project.	reporting		
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Goal IV: Protect and Restore Water Quality and Quantity

Notes:

- It is assumed that habitat protection and restoration actions will have a net benefit for water quality and quantity.
- This goal focuses on the continuation and establishing new efforts to monitor water quality throughout the watershed. The Council and Partner organizations will monitor water quality under the Council's Three-Tiered approach that includes: ambient, storm-event, and tributary specific monitoring programs. For example, Eugene Water and Electric Board will be conducting storm-event monitoring in future years.
- Water quality monitoring also includes sampling efforts for macroinvertebrates.

Statements of desired conditions:

- The McKenzie River continues to support high water quality as measured by the Department of Environmental Quality's Oregon Water Quality Index. Where degraded, water quality will improve in tributary streams and mainstem.
- The Council and Partner organizations engage in targeted monitoring and assessment that address gaps in information on the status of water quality and quantity in the McKenzie River Watershed. Where water quality concerns have been identified, adaptive management strategies and education are utilized to make corrections. The monitoring effort concentrates on lower McKenzie River Valley mainstem and tributary streams.
- The Council works with agencies, resource entities, private businesses and landowners to enhance or restore natural stream flows and the natural physical characteristics of these flows. Methods include negotiations, water right purchases, and habitat restoration projects aimed at achieving natural flow dynamics in the McKenzie River watershed. Note: the Council recognizes that numerous regulatory entities are in place concerning water quantity and water withdrawal; the Council sphere of influence is advisory.

Benchmarks	Indicators	Progress	Status
By 2020, the monitoring program continues to report on the status of water quality in the McKenzie River Watershed and there is no decline in the Oregon Water Quality Index. By 2010, the monitoring program provides a report on water quality status in the <i>State of the Watershed Report</i> . The Oregon Water Quality Index continues to be evaluated and there is no decline in the index values.	1) Water quality reports produced by the Department of Environmental Quality and Council.	1) Reports produced annually	Ongoing
	2) Ongoing water quality monitoring Partnerships developed with local groups and other organizations.	2) 8 developed partnerships	Ongoing
	3) Oregon Water Quality Index values as reported by Department of Environmental Quality.	3) See most recent DEQ McKenzie Water Quality Report	Completed
	4) Water pollution loads determined and decreasing.	4) Needs further study	Planned
	5) Water rights secured in water trusts	5) Needs further study	Planned

Goal V: Council Accounts For and Provides Investments in the Watershed

Statement of desired conditions: The Council has the ability to understand the implementation effectiveness of the *Conservation Strategy* Goals. Evaluation of the *Strategy's* effectiveness provides sufficient information to adjust work plans to meet deficiencies in the approach.

- The Council has a comprehensive system for tracking the details of project implementation, project monitoring and evaluating progress toward meeting the benchmarks. *It is anticipated that data entered into the database will include only information where the Council is the implementer or is in Partnership on a project.* Partnership is defined as Council providing money, seeking grants, bringing coordination or organizational efforts to the project, and/or providing technical skills in support of the project.
- The Council provides annual reports on implementation and effectiveness of the *Conservation Strategy* and 5-year reports on the state of the watershed's resources to watershed interests and funding organizations.
- The Council use watershed restoration as an economic development opportunity for the communities, businesses and interested people in the watershed. This includes establishing economic relationships with purchases from plant nurseries, hiring skilled contractors, and other professional people to conduct restoration work.

Benchmarks	Indicators	Progress	Status
<p>By 2020, the Council is monitoring and reporting on all Council actions related to the implementation of the <i>Conservation Strategy</i>.</p> <p>By 2010 the Council is using a comprehensive database, including a Geographic Information System, for tracking of benchmarks, monitoring individual projects, and is reporting on whether actions are achieving the goals and actions of the <i>Conservation Strategy</i>.</p> <p>On an annually basis the majority of watershed restoration funds the Council receives are spent in the watershed.</p>	1) The number of benchmarks successfully tracked.	1) 28 indicators successfully tracked	Ongoing
	2) The ability to answer database queries, including displaying project locations & characteristics.	2) Database created in 2004 to track benchmarks. GIS mapping ability being developed.	Ongoing
	3) Annual reports.	3) BPA Accomplishment Reports produced annually	Ongoing
	4) 2010 first release of state of the watershed report.	4) pending	Planned
	5) Number of contractors annually hired from within the watershed.	5) 17	Ongoing
	6) Amount of supplies purchased annually from within the watershed.	6) \$22,000	Ongoing