

McKenzie Watershed Council Charter

Original Charter approved by consensus October 14, 1993
Revised Charter Approved by consensus January 31, 2004

Purpose:

The McKenzie Watershed Council was formed 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.

Vision:

Through the McKenzie Watershed Council's Conservation Strategy, the McKenzie River Watershed supports exceptional water quality and habitats in balance with human economic livelihood and quality of life.

Mission:

To foster better stewardship of the McKenzie River watershed resources, deal with issues in advance of resource degradation, and ensure sustainable watershed health, functions and uses. The Council will accomplish its mission through fostering voluntary partnerships and collaboration.

Relationship to Decision-Making Bodies and Communities of Interest:

The McKenzie Watershed Council is an advisory body to established decision-making bodies and communities of interest. As such, the Council makes recommendations concerning the protection, restoration, and enhancement of the quality of the McKenzie River Watershed.

The agencies, organizations, and interests represented on the Council are not obligated to adopt or carry out the recommendations of the Council but will give due consideration to the recommendations and take actions they consider appropriate. These agencies, organizations, and interests will report back to the Council on any actions taken in response to Council recommendations.

The Council welcomes and will respond to requests for advice on actions affecting the watershed that are proposed by local, state, and federal agencies, organizations, and/or interests.

Council Partners will keep their respective agencies, organizations, and interests informed about the work of the Council and will also bring their concerns to the Council.

Goals and Objectives:

1. Establish a framework for coordination, cooperation, and citizen involvement;
2. Improve communication among affected private individuals, interested citizens, and representatives of local, state and federal agencies;

3. Provide a forum for resolving problems and conflicts related to the Council's mission when all parties to the problem or conflict agree to refer the matter to the Council;
4. Develop an integrated, comprehensive watershed management program which includes an Action Plan consisting of outreach, education fish and wildlife habitat restoration, and monitoring activities to achieve and maintain watershed health;
5. Provide ongoing program evaluation during implementation;
6. Promote ongoing monitoring of the health of the McKenzie River Watershed, and;
7. Promote partnerships and secure funding to implement the Council's Benchmarks (adopted April 2002, attached).

Specific Tasks and Responsibilities:

1. Approve a public involvement program to ensure an appropriate level of citizen participation in the Council's work;
2. Determine the current condition and uses of the watershed;
3. Identify the desired condition and uses of the watershed;
4. Prepare a proposed watershed action program, including recommended policies and actions, to achieve and maintain the desired condition;
5. Monitor implementation of the watershed action program;
6. Help resolve issues among diverse interests in the watershed;
7. Seek funding to support program development and implementation, including funding from agencies represented on the Council;
8. Address the needs and concerns of the respective agencies, organizations and interests represented on the Council;
9. Adopt and implement an annual work plan and budget, monitor work program progress and budget, and give direction to Council staff;
10. Annually brief elected officials and provide annual accomplishments to Partner organizations; and
11. Provide State of the Watershed Report to Partners and decision-makers every five years.

Cooperative Partners:

The McKenzie Watershed Council shall attempt to include representatives from the following interests: local government, water utility companies, McKenzie Valley residents, resource users (e.g., agriculture, private timber), industrial forest land managers, major water consumers, environmental advocates, state government, and federal government. A majority of partners shall be local citizens, including local officials. Ideally, the Council will have representation from 17-20 diverse stakeholder groups on an annual basis. The following is a list of interests and organizations that could be considered for Council composition. This list is not intended to limit participation and the Council recognizes that newly formed groups could be approved for

Partnership by consensus and that existing groups sometimes dissolve and will be removed from the Council.

<u>Interest</u>	<u>Agency/Organization</u>	<u>Position</u>
Local government	Lane County	Commissioner
Local government	City of Eugene	City Councilor
Local government	City of Springfield	City Councilor
Local government	City of Coburg	Public Works
Water utility	Eugene Water & Electric Board	Commissioner
Water utility	Springfield Utility Board	Board member
Water utility	Community Water Association(s)	Board member
Recreation provider	McKenzie River Guides Association	Officer
McKenzie Valley resident	McKenzie Residents Assn.	Assn. member (2)
McKenzie Valley resident	Mohawk Watershed Partnership	Board Member
Industrial Forest Land Mgr.	Weyerhaeuser Company (or similar)	Land Use Manager
Resource users	E. Lane Soil & Water Conserv. Dist.	Board member
Major water consumers	e.g., Hynix, Kingsford or similar	Plant manager
Environmental	McKenzie/Cascade Family Flyfishers	Officer
Environmental	Oregon Natural Resources Council, Audubon, Izzak Walton League, Sierra Club, Obsidians, Oregon Trout	Officer
State government	Department of State Lands	Asst. Director
State government	Oregon Dept. Fish and Wildlife	Biologist/Manager
State government	Dept. of Environmental Quality	Field Manager
Federal government	USDOI - Bureau of Land Mgmt.	Field Manager
Federal government	USDA-USFS, Willamette Nat. Forest	District Ranger
Federal government	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Project Manager
Land Trust	McKenzie River Trust	Managing Director
Formal Educator	McKenzie or Mohawk Schools	Teacher or Admin.
McKenzie Residents	At-Large Stakeholder (Lower/Upper)	Resident (2)*
Business Interest	McKenzie or Springfield Chamber of Commerce or Convention & Visitors Bureau	Officer

*At-Large Representatives process: Applications submitted by residents will be reviewed by

the Executive Committee, who will nominate two representatives for full Council approval. At-Large Partner term limits will be staggered with a two year duration with option of renewal via Council approval.

The Partner representatives shall serve at the pleasure of their respective agencies and organizations. Organizations can propose someone from within their organizations, not in a Position mentioned above, to serve on the Council with Council approval. For example, Springfield Utility Board can designate a Groundwater Protection staff person to serve instead of a SUB Board member. Partners are also encouraged to designate an alternate that will participate on the Council in the Partner's absence.

The Council will act to replace Partners who resign or are unable to continue serving on the Council. The Council will strive to maintain continuity and the balance of interests by giving preference to representation from the same agencies and organizations. The Council will request the agency or organization to nominate a replacement representative. If the agency or organization is unable or unwilling to do so, the Council will seek representation from another agency or organization of the same community of interest.

The Council may add agencies, organizations or interests as Council Partners upon nomination by an existing Partner and approval by the Council.

Organization and Procedures:

The Council will use a consensus decision-making process (see Ground Rules herein).

The Council may select a chair or co-chairs to serve as spokesperson(s), advise Council Coordinator or other Council staff on Council agendas, call and manage Council meetings, enforce ground rules, and perform other tasks assigned by the Council.

Executive Committee Replacement Process - Three months in advance of the expiration of the Executive Committee's term in office a three member nominating committee, including the one member of the Executive Committee and two other Council Partners, will be formed. The nominating committee shall make a recommendation for a new Executive Committee of the Council at the meeting preceding the expiration of the outgoing Executive Committee's term (Approved July 1996).

The Executive Committee can be empowered (by the full Council) to make decisions on Council process and small monetary decisions (see below). All meetings of the Executive Committee will have notes recorded, as well as reports to the Council on a routine basis. The Executive Committee will be nominated and approved by Council consensus on an annual basis (see above). At least four interest groups will comprise the Executive Committee. The groups may be: elected officials, resource users, residents, and government.

The Council may select other officers as needed. The Council may form subcommittees of its own Partners, and task groups that include individuals not on the Council to perform certain functions or focus on specific issues. The Executive Committee will appoint the Friends of the McKenzie Watershed Board of Directors.

As funding allows and as approved by the Council, Council staff can include: a Coordinator, Project Manager, and other positions. Partner agencies, organizations and interests may provide staff assistance when requested by the Council Coordinator or the Council. The Council can also decide to provide funds to sub-watershed groups and programs that fit the Council's goals and mission.

Subcommittee Discretion - If a subcommittee is considering an action that is outside the scope of an approved budget, action plan or work program, the subcommittee must get Council consensus on amending the budget, action plan, or work program prior to proceeding. If a subcommittee has any questions about whether an issue is outside the approved budget, action plan or work program, Council consensus will be sought (Approved July 1996). All Requests for Proposals (RFPs) will require Council consensus.

New Partner Orientation - Each new Council Partner will receive an orientation session from a Council Partner or staff member within one month of joining the MWC. The co-chairs or Executive Committee or Coordinator will assign someone with this responsibility at the time a new Partner joins the MWC. Outgoing Partners are also encouraged to assist their replacements during the transition (Approved July 1996).

The McKenzie Watershed Council revised Charter has been approved by Council Partners in 2004. The Charter includes all amendments and revisions relating to the operation and procedures of the McKenzie Watershed Council.

McKenzie Watershed Council Ground Rules

Original Ground Rules approved by consensus, November 10, 1993
Amendments Approved by Consensus, December 9, 1993; December 8, 1994; April 13, 1995; October 12, 1995; July 11, 1996
Revised Ground Rules Approved by Consensus January 31, 2004

Council Partners Agree to the following Ground Rules

Council Decision-Making: The Council will use a consensus decision-making process. A consensus decision is one reached with no objections. Periodically during the decision-making process the facilitator will check-in with the Partners to determine the level of consensus for a decision. If the level of consensus is low, the Council may decide to delay discussion of the item to a later date.

The levels of consensus include (Adopted July 1996):

- 1 = *Wholeheartedly Agree, will take a lead in the follow-up***
- 2 = *Good Idea, can bring resources toward***
- 3 = *Supportive, but not likely to provide resources***
- 4 = *Reservations, but will stand aside***
- 5 = *Serious Concerns, but can live with the decision***
- 6 = *Cannot Participate In Decision, will work to block it***
- 7 = *Recuse***

Each Council Partner will be given flash cards with the numbers 1 through 7 on them to use to show the level of consensus on issue of substance.

When the Council is deliberating an external issue; such as rules, legislation, etc, where the Council has been asked to provide input to another forum, if at least 80% of the attending Partners are in agreement, the level of consensus can be reported along with any written or verbal comments/statement submitted. In addition, the comments/statements will include the concerns raised by those not participating in the consensus decision. Staff will communicate results to absent Partners that action was taken (Adopted July 1996).

- When one or more Partners are absent from a meeting, the Partners present will determine if they feel comfortable making a decision or deferring it to a later date.
- Partners absent from a meeting in which a consensus decision has been made will have an opportunity to discuss the decision at the next Council meeting.
- Sufficient time will be provided for the Partners to seek advice from constituents, agencies, or other experts, when desired, before a decision is adopted by the Council.

- A Partner who believes he/she has a legal decision-making responsibility on an issue being discussed by the Council may choose to abstain from indicating any level of consensus but is encouraged to participate in the Council discussion on the issue. Partner abstention will not affect the ability of the Council to reach consensus.
- When a decision is reached by consensus, Council Partners will advocate to their respective agencies or organizations support for the adoption or implementation of the decision. However, if a Partner has abstained on the issue, the Partner may choose to simply report the Council's deliberations on the issue to her/his agency.
- The Council may appoint a person to serve as facilitator. A facilitator would conduct the meeting, help ensure full participation of Partners, help Partners stay on track, and help Partners reach consensus.

Participation:

- The Council will hold regular meetings and follow the provisions of the Open Meetings Law. At least ten minutes will be set aside at the beginning of each meeting for public comment.
- A majority of the Council Partners must be present to hold a Council meeting.
- Council Partners will keep their respective agencies, organizations, or interests informed about the work of the Council and bring concerns of their groups to the Council.
- Partners may designate a representative of their group to serve as an alternate. Designated alternates will be listed on the Partners list of the Council.
- Each Partner will brief her/his alternate on all issues and proceedings prior to the alternate's attendance at Council meetings.
- Partners will make every effort to attend all Council meetings themselves and if they are unable to do so then will notify their alternates.
- Partners will notify the Council Coordinator or Council chair if both the Partner and his/her alternate will be unable to attend a Council meeting.
- If the Partner and his/her alternate are unable to attend a meeting, the Partner may provide written comments or ask another Partner or the Council coordinator to represent his/her position on a particular issue.
- Partners will notify the Council if he/she must vacate his/her position.

Behavior:

- Partners will treat each other with respect, will not monopolize meeting time, and will listen to and try to understand one another's views. Partners are discouraged from placing blame for past practices.
- Partners will search for opportunities to develop group solutions and to resolve conflicts.
- Partners will strive to adhere to the ground rules and will be responsible for their enforcement.

Amendments:

- A Council Partner may propose amendments to the ground rules at any time. Amendments will become effective at the time proposed if all Council members are present and approve. Otherwise, amendments will become effective at the meeting following the proposal upon consensus of all present.

Process and Criteria for Responding to MWC Partnership Requests

Process:

- Staff will interview a representative of the agency/organization requesting Partnership to identify its interests in the watershed, describe the composition of the Council, the Council's work program, and its charter and ground rules. Staff will advise the representative of the agency/organization of alternatives for involvement in the Council's work and describe the process and criteria for applying for Partnership.
- If Partnership is still requested, the representative of the agency/organization will be asked to respond in writing to the following questions:
 - What are the interests of the agency/organization regarding the McKenzie River watershed management program?
 - How might these interests affect and be affected by Council decisions?
 - Why are the alternatives to Council Partnership not suitable to ensure representation of these interests?
 - How are the agency/organizations interests not represented adequately by existing Council Partners?
 - How would the addition of the agency/organization to the Council benefit the work of the Council?
 - Is the agency/organization willing to follow the ground rules?
- A subcommittee will review the responses to the questions and using the approved criteria makes a recommendation to the Council.

- Upon nomination by a Council Partner, the Council will decide whether to add the agency/organization to the Council. A representative of the agency/organization will be invited to participate in this Council meeting.
- If Partnership on the Council is approved, the Council and/or staff will work with the agency/organization to ensure appropriate involvement in the watershed program.
- If the Council approves the addition of the agency/organization as a Partner, the agency/organization will indicate its commitment to support the MWC by signing the charter.

Criteria:

- It is desirable that the number of Council Partners not increase to the point that the ability of each Partner to participate fully in discussions is limited or that the Council loses its effectiveness or its balance of interests. For these reasons the following criteria will be used to evaluate requests for Partnership. An agency/organization must meet **all** of the following criteria to be eligible for Partnership:
 - The interest represented by the agency/organization should be represented in the watershed program because it is significantly impacted by or has a direct, significant impact on watershed condition and has a broad rather than specific interest in the watershed condition; or it has responsibility to implement part of a watershed action program;
 - The interest cannot be represented adequately by existing Partners;
 - Addition of the agency/organization will not create an imbalance in the interests represented on the Council; and
 - The interests of the agency/organization cannot be adequately represented through an alternative method of involvement, or exclusion of the agency/organization would render the Council less effective in reaching/implementing its goals and objectives.
 - It is recognized that At-Large Partners are selected as individuals representing a geographic area of the watershed. At-Large Partners are not selected for nor are they representing, a single water issue or watershed organization.

Alternatives for Involving Interested Agencies/Organizations

- Place on mailing list for agendas, minutes and other materials;
- Invite representatives to make presentations to the Council;
- Invite representatives to be members of task group that the Council forms to deal with specific issues related to their interests;

- Designate representatives as technical advisors to the Council;
- Invite participation in the Council's public involvement program; and/or
- An existing Council Partner agrees to work with the agency/organization to represent its interests on the Council.

Guidelines for Involving the McKenzie Watershed Council and Individual Partners

The Council wants to assure that Stakeholders and Partners have continued and open access to the Council. Because the Council's meeting agenda is very often full, this document may be helpful in approximating the time frame for certain options as well as providing guidelines for agencies, organization, and others wanting to interact with the McKenzie Watershed Council. These guidelines include various ways or levels of Council interaction. This document is a companion to the Council document, "Criteria for Prioritizing Council Roles and Level of Involvement for Non-Work Program Items," December 8, 1994 which sets criteria for the Council to follow in prioritizing its work. Staff should be contacted well in advance to discuss options for getting on the Council's agenda. Items related to the Council's work program (e.g., water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, and human habitat) are most likely to receive higher scheduling priority.

The Council meets on the second Thursday of every month. Materials to be included in the Council's packet must be received at least four days prior to the meeting. The Council agenda is usually put together ten days prior to the next meeting. Staff should be contacted at least ten days prior to a meeting to get an item on the Council's agenda and for materials to be included in the mailing packet that will lead to Council decision-making. All written materials accompanying a presentation should be included in the agenda packet for Partner's review and must be received by staff prior to mailing the packet. Individuals are encouraged to do their own mailings directly to Partners; a mailing list can be provided.

The different levels of Council involvement have different review and decision-making time frames. It takes at least ten days for Council Partners to review and comment on an item from the time they receive it. For an item requiring a Council consensus decision, if any Partners are absent, decisions must be reviewed at the next Council meeting to allow input from absent Partners. If all Council Partners are present, a consensus decision is effective at the time it is made.

I. Levels of Involvement

A. Information Items:

1. Information items are those not requiring Council discussion or review. These items can be handled through the Council's agenda or as non-agenda items. Materials for information items to be included in the Council's packet must be submitted no later than ten days prior to the monthly meeting.

2. Materials are included in the Council's mailing packet as non-agenda items with no request for Council action.
3. A Council Partner or representative from an organization makes an informational presentation to the Council with no request for Council action.
4. A Council Partner makes an informational presentation at a conference representing the Council (e.g., Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board conference).

B. Individual Partners Representing Council:

1. Individual Partners with consensus direction from the Council can represent the Council as a whole.
2. A Council Partner attends a meeting of an outside groups and reports back to the Council.
3. The Council assigns a Council Partner to another committee as a liaison to the Council.
4. The Partner periodically reports back to the Council.
5. A Council Partner makes a presentation to a committee or hearing representing the Council.

C. Council Review and Comment by Individual Partners:

Council review and comment can occur at the Council meeting or through comments sent outside the meeting. This method of involvement is best suited to items not requiring a single Council opinion. It normally takes about two weeks for individual Partners to review and comment on any items from the time they receive it. Materials to be included in the Council mail-out packet must be received at least ten days prior to the meeting.

1. Non-agenda items

- a. Materials are mailed to Council Partners with a request for Council review and comment
- b. Council Partners submit comments individually outside the meeting to the requesting body, or
- c. Council Partners submit comments outside the meeting and staff compiles and forwards comments to the requesting body.

2. Agenda Items:

At the end of each meeting the Council begins setting the agenda for the next meeting. Staff and if needed, Council Partners further refine the agenda about ten days prior to the next meeting so as to have the mailing packet to Council Partners at least four days before the meeting. Individuals wanting to have an item on the Council's agenda should take these timelines into consideration and contact staff well in advance.

- a. A Council Partner, representative from an organization, or individual makes a presentation to a Council subcommittee with a request for a subcommittee recommendation to the Council for action, or
- b. A Council Partner or representative from an organization makes a presentation to the Council with a request for individual Partner review and comment, or
- c. Council Partners provide comments during the meeting, or
- d. Council Partners submit comments individually outside the meeting to the requesting body, or
- e. Council Partners submit comments outside the meeting to staff who compiles and forwards comments to the requesting body.

D. Council Consensus Decision:

A Council consensus decision is best suited to items requiring a single Council opinion. It may take a minimum of two months before a consensus decision is finalized. Consensus decisions must be reviewed at the next Council meeting to allow time for absent Partners to comment before they become final. Materials to be included in the Council's packet must be received at least five days prior to the meeting.

A Council Partner or representative from an organization makes a presentation to the Council with a request for Council discussion, comment, and consensus decision. If any Partners are absent, decisions must be reviewed at the next Council meeting to allow input from absent Partners.

E. Criteria for Prioritizing Council's Role and Levels of Involvement for Non-Work Program Items

1. Council's Role:

The Council's role is outlined in the purpose, mission, and goals and objectives of its charter. As contained in the charter, the Council's role includes serving as a forum for coordination, communication and resolution of problems in the watershed.

2. Criteria:

The Council may use the following criteria in determining the appropriate level of involvement.

a. Information Items

- The issue affects the McKenzie Watershed;
- The issue fits within the Council's mission;
- There is Council support to address the issue.

b. Council Review and Comment

- The issue affects the McKenzie Watershed;
- The issue fits within the Council's mission;
- There is Council support to address the issue;
- The issue is within the scope and schedule of the Council's work program.

c. Council Consensus Decision

- The issue affects the McKenzie Watershed;
- The issue fits within the Council's mission;
- There is Council support to address the issue;
- The issue is within the scope and schedule of the Council's work program;
- The Council has the potential to influence how the issue is handled;
- The issue could not more appropriately be addressed by another forum;
- Resources can be identified to assist the Council in addressing the issue; and
- The Council's decision would be timely.

McKenzie Watershed Council

McKenzie Watershed Benchmark System

Vision: Describes the Council's desired future for the watershed for fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, education, outreach, collaboration and Partnerships among interests.

Mission of the McKenzie Watershed Council (Council's responsibility to attain the vision):

Goals: The *Conservation Strategy* has five goals that help achieve the vision.

Strategies: Specific actions designed to achieve the goals.

Statement of Desired Conditions: Describes the future environmental and/or organizational conditions achieved through the implementation of the strategies.

Benchmarks: Specific values (or target) for an Indicator (below) set at a particular future point in time (2020) that shows progress towards reaching the desired condition identified herein. Current values for the Indicators are calculated from 2000 information contained in the Assessment and form the basis for measuring progress toward the Benchmarks in the out-years. The Council will produce a *State of the Watershed* report in 2010 evaluating the status of the watershed emphasizing this Benchmark system. Please note that there is both near-term (2010) and long-term (2020) check-in points when progress towards the Benchmarks will be evaluated.

Indicator: Measurement Unit of where and when to measure.

The Council considers these as:

- Reference points for goal setting.

- Tools for setting priorities and allocating resources.

- Yardsticks for measuring watershed health and Council performance.

- Tools for seeking Partner cooperation on broad issues.

- Tools for assessing the gap between existing and desired conditions.

- Learning and educational tools.

Definitions of key terms

Protection: Maintaining high quality natural habitats and related biological, chemical, and physical processes in an ecosystem. Management actions that may be necessary to maintain natural functions and characteristics. (Adapted from Kauffman et al., 1997. *An Ecological Perspective of Riparian and Stream Restoration in the Western United States*. Fisheries: 22). See Goal III for methods of protection.

The Council emphasizes protection in areas of the watershed with high quality habitats. Protection of areas and ecological functions that are at present relatively productive for

fish and wildlife populations will provide a base for expansion of healthy populations as the Council restores degraded habitats in other areas.

Restoration:

- (1) Reestablishment of riparian, stream or other habitat functions and related biological, chemical, and physical processes in an ecosystem, this includes reestablishing connectivity of habitats.
- (2) Actions taken to move a habitat type modified through human actions closer to its original function. (Adapted from Glossary of Aquatic Habitat Inventory Terminology, American Fisheries Society, 1998). See Goal III for methods.

The Council emphasizes restoration in areas where natural processes once created the best habitats and there has been a loss in quality and/or amount. It is recognized that habitats will be restored and then protected where possible.

PROPOSED BENCHMARKS

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.

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


BENCHMARK	INDICATORS
<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 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>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Number of individuals attending Council meetings and other Council educational activities. 2) Number of presentations given by Council Staff, Council Volunteers and Partners to organizations, user groups, and classrooms. 3) Number and hours of residents, students, teachers, organizations, and user groups devoted to participating in Council projects. 4) Number of households and organizations receiving Council information (newsletters and other materials). 5) Percentage of surveyed watershed residents and other stakeholders who express an understanding of watershed issues, stewardship actions, and Council activities. 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.

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
<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>2) Number of individuals assisted with stewardship actions that restores and protects habitat.</p> <p>3) Number of developed action plans moving toward restoring and protecting habitat.</p> <p>4) Number of individuals and hours devoted to participating in Council projects.</p> <p>5) Amount and diversity of funds (cash and in-kind) raised to support watershed restoration and protection efforts.</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)

Goal III continued: Protect and Restore Key Fish and Wildlife Habitats

BENCHMARK	INDICATOR
<p>By 2020 the Council and Partner organizations will implement 20 landowner agreements focused on protection (see methods below).</p> <p>By 2020 the Council and Partner organizations will implement 160 restoration projects (see methods below) targeting the five key habitat types above.</p> <p>By 2010 there will be a net increase in the area of private lands protected and restored in the Lower McKenzie watershed.</p> <p>By 2010, Council and Partner organizations will implement 60 restoration projects focused on the five key habitats and habitat connections.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Methods for restoration: 1) The area meets the project's restoration objectives for sustaining ecological/physical processes based on project effectiveness monitoring.</p> <p>Project Selection: To ensure the quality of restoration projects, the McKenzie Watershed Council IDT (Inter-disciplinary Team) will evaluate the relative and individual merit of each project before proceeding with a particular project.</p>	<p>1) Acres of land area protected by habitat type.</p> <p>2) A net positive increase in key habitat types (baseline 2000 Subbasin Assessment)</p> <p>3) Number of quality projects completed.</p> <p>4) Number of aquatic passage barriers replaced.</p> <p>5) Estimate of the length/acres of aquatic habitat reconnected.</p> <p>6) Length/acres of key riparian, aquatic, and terrestrial habitats restored.</p> <p>Baseline data: 2000 McKenzie Subbasin Assessment, McKenzie Watershed Council data, McKenzie River Trust information, and aquatic passage inventory project reporting.</p>




Goal IV: Protect and Restore Water Quality and Quantity

Note: It is assumed that habitat protection and restoration actions will have a net benefit for water quality and quantity.

Note: 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.


Note: Water quality monitoring also includes sampling efforts for macroinvertebrates.


Statement 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
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Water quality reports produced by the Department of Environmental Quality and Council. 2) Ongoing water quality monitoring Partnerships developed with local groups and other organizations. 3) Oregon Water Quality Index values as reported by Department of Environmental Quality. 4) Water pollution loads determined and decreasing. 5) Water rights secured in water trusts.

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 implementor 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
<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>	<p>1) The number of benchmarks successfully tracked.</p> <p>2) The ability to answer database queries, including displaying project locations & characteristics.</p> <p>3) Annual reports.</p> <p>4) 2010 first release of state of the watershed report.</p> <p>5) Number of contractors annually hired from within the watershed.</p> <p>6) Amount of supplies purchased annually from within the watershed.</p>