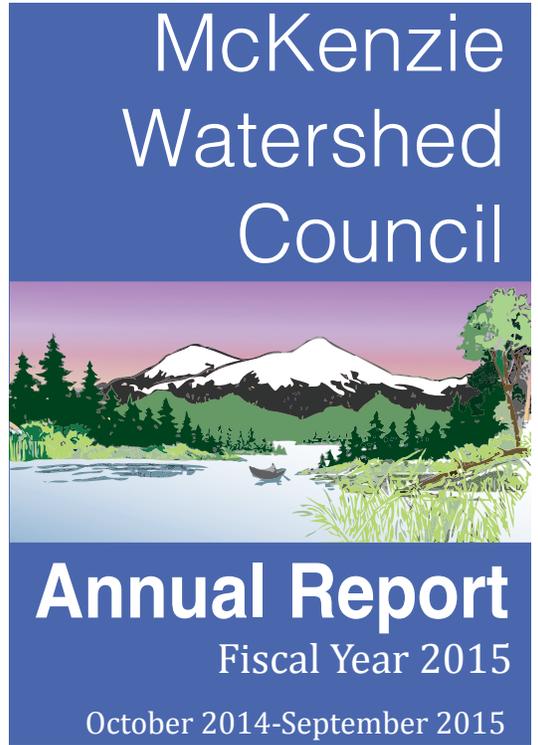




"The river links us all..."



Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2015

October 2014-September 2015

COUNCIL PARTNERS

Accomplishments at a Glance

With the help of partners and volunteers, the Council accomplished great things to improve and protect the McKenzie River watershed. Some of these accomplishments include:

Projects

- 6 acres of riparian enhancement projects.
- 1.5 miles in-stream habitat enhancement.
- Riparian project outreach, planning and development on 35 acres.
- Project planning and development for over 7 miles of aquatic habitat restoration projects and over 500 acres of floodplain habitat.
- Riparian survey and restoration planning and development with 16 private landowners covering nearly 100 acres as part of EWEB's Voluntary Incentives Program Pilot Project.
- Secured grants and funding totaling over \$250,000 for planned restoration projects.

Community Engagement

- 10 Monthly Council Meetings were held throughout the area.

- 4 Mohawk Watershed Partnership meetings including the annual BBQ.
- Over 120 volunteers participated in the Annual McKenzie River Clean-up.
- Participation in community committees
- 4 Public tours

Education

- Over 200 students participated in team field-based education activities.
- 100 students participated in classroom-based education.
- Over 1,200 students participated in the Salmon Watch Program.
- Over 20 University of Oregon undergraduate students participated in two separate Service Learning Projects.
- 2 student-led public presentations to the community.

- 6 Resident Partners
- Mohawk Watershed Partnership
- McKenzie Flyfishers
- McKenzie River Guides
- McKenzie School District
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Wildish Company
- International Paper
- Lane County
- Association of NW Steelheaders
- McKenzie River Trust
- Rice Family Farms
- Eugene Water and Electric Board
- Upper Willamette SWCD
- Weyerhaeuser Company
- City of Springfield
- City of Eugene
- OR Department of Fish & Wildlife
- US Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management

Council Activities

Action Plan

The Council and its partners continued planning and development of a strategic action plan for aquatic and riparian conservation and restoration in the McKenzie River Sub-basin. The plan will identify and prioritize actions to 1) improve habitat for key aquatic species; 2) maintain high quality drinking water for the City of Eugene, City of Springfield and watershed residents; and 3) enhance public awareness, understanding and support for watershed conservation and restoration. All actions are voluntary. The plan is expected to be finalized in spring 2016.

Tours

The Council coordinated and/or led a total of four project tours in 2015. Two of the tours focused on increasing collaboration among

scientists and researchers associated with the USFS HJ Andrews Experimental Forest, Oregon State University and the University of Oregon. Over 50 people attended tours which looked at floodplain restoration at the McKenzie River Trust-owned Green Island property, in-stream enhancement completed work as part of the “Middle McKenzie Side Channel Enhancement Project”, and planned in-stream and floodplain enhancement projects on the South Fork McKenzie River and Deer Creek. The Council also led two tours, attended by over 40 people, which examined riparian restoration practices and progress on a 25-acre site on the lower McKenzie River.



Events

The council in partnership with the McKenzie River Guides Association and the McKenzie Fly Fishers held the annual McKenzie River Clean-up on July 11, 2015. Over 120 community volunteers participated. Their efforts helped protect and return the river to a more pristine condition. Volunteers removed trash and debris from over 40 separate areas along the river.

Projects

During 2015, our restoration activities included riparian planting on six acres along Cedar Creek, the Mohawk River and the lower McKenzie River. Riparian enhancement included maintenance and invasive vegetation management on nearly 40 acres. In-stream habitat enhancement through the placement of large woody material (LWM) was completed on 1.5 miles of McKenzie River side channels in cooperation with a number of partners including the McKenzie River Trust and City of Eugene.

Outreach and project development for planned riparian restoration projects took place on 35 acres along Cedar Creek, the Mohawk River and the lower McKenzie River. In partnership with a variety of public agencies and private landowners,

we completed planning and development for over 7 miles of in-stream enhancement in the Deer Creek, South Fork McKenzie River and Gate Creek watersheds. In-stream project planning included a potential of over 500 acres of floodplain enhancement through increased connectivity and placement of LWM.

The Council, in partnership with a variety of other organizations and agencies continued collaborative work on the Eugene Water and Electric Board's Voluntary Incentives Program (VIP). The VIP seeks to protect and restore riparian habitat along the



McKenzie River for its water quality and habitat benefits. Surveys and project development was completed for nearly 100 acres in partnership with 16 private landowners in 2015.

Education

The Council's Environmental Education Programs accommodate a variety of educational, administrative and scheduling needs and constraints through a multi-modal approach, and in collaboration with a variety of federal, state and local community partners. By leveraging this cooperative approach, we are able to provide rigorous inquiry- and field-based watershed science education to over 1,500 students annually.



Team-Based Program

The team-based watershed assessment and monitoring programs included six teams composed of students from three high schools, and seven riparian restoration teams composed of students from five middle schools. Students participate in one full-day field outing each month throughout the school year. Team activities are directly aligned with the Council's watershed restoration priorities and student work is performed on sites where the Council is engaging in active assessment, monitoring, restoration and enhancement. This year, over 200 high school and middle school students from Springfield Public School, Eugene 4-J Public School and McKenzie School Districts participated in our team-based program.

Class-Based Program

The Council's classroom-based education program engaged students in watershed assessment, monitoring and restoration on school campuses or adjacent locations occurring within the school class schedule. This program was developed to accommodate scheduling and logistics constraints.

At Mohawk School, the Program engaged 50 middle and high school students during their regular science class period, twice a month throughout the school year. At the end of the school year several students took part in a presentation of the concepts they had learned, as well as data they had collected, at the Mohawk Watershed Partnership Annual Community BBQ. At McKenzie Elementary School, we worked with students engaged in their Outdoor School program. Students learned about the importance of macro-invertebrates as bio-indicators, and gained hands-on experience in collecting and identifying aquatic insects.



Field Trip Program

More than 1,200 students, from 17 schools in 7 local area districts, attended 38 field trips that provided salmon education and experiential learning opportunities. The field trips expand on curriculum taught

Agnes Stewart Middle School

Briggs Middle School

Hamlin Middle School

Mohawk Middle School

Springfield Middle School

Thurston Middle School

Coburg Charter School

Springfield High School

Thurston High School

McKenzie High School

Mohawk High School

University of Oregon

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

by the middle and high school teachers focusing on the salmon life cycle. The trips, which accounted for 7,290 student field hours, would not have been possible without the help of volunteer educators that taught about salmon and watershed ecology through the use of four education stations. These stations focus on water quality, ecology, macroinvertebrates, and fish biology. In total, 60 dedicated volunteers contributed 888 hours to this program.

Service Learning Projects

We continued our long-standing partnership with the University of Oregon Environmental Leadership Program (UO ELP). A total of 22 UO ELP students participated on separate teams in 2015. Teams completed monitoring associated with three riparian restoration projects. These projects covered over 25 acres, and included the development of early project planning documents for an upland oak restoration project on Lane County property and a riparian project on private land along the McKenzie River.

Financial Information

Income

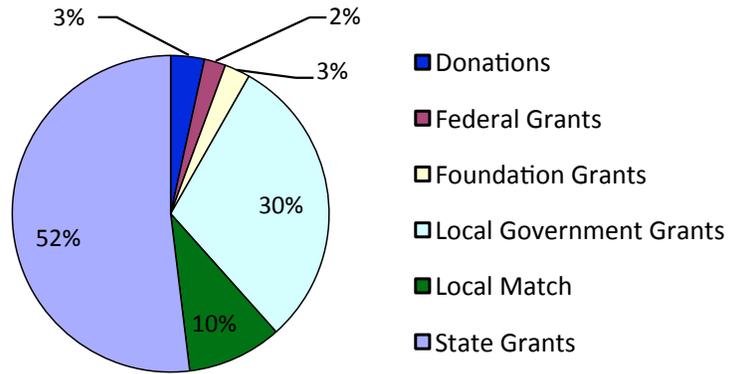
Grant Revenue	497,821
Donations	19,687
Local Match	55,416
Total Income	572,924

Expense

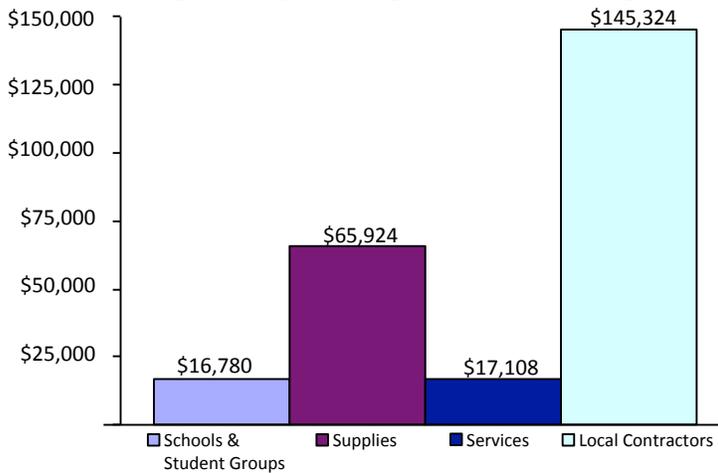
Salary & Wages	277,769
Restoration & Monitoring	250,224
Outreach/Education	16,780
Administration	17,580
Council Activities	5,520
Insurance	5,366
Total Expense	573,239

MWC 2015 Funding Sources

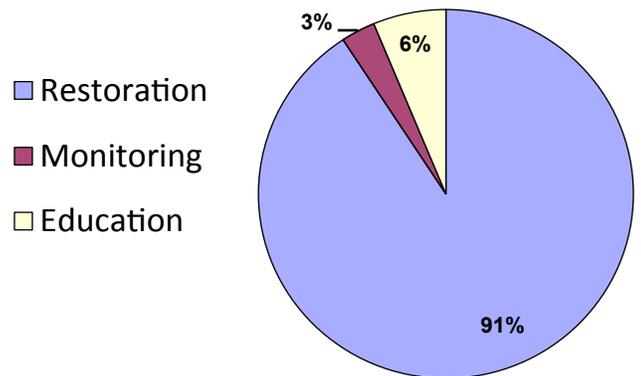
Total Income \$572,924



Program Spending in Lane County



Project and Education Spending



Thank you to all of our 2015 supporters

Amazon Smile
 Bureau of Land Management
 Cabelas
 Charlotte Martin Foundation
 City of Springfield
 City of Eugene
 Eugene Water and Electric Board

Grey Family Foundation
 Individual Private Donors
 Lane County
 Meyer Memorial Trust
 McKenzie River Trust
 Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
 Oregon State Weed Board
 Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Pacific Continental Bank
 PlankTown
 Redtail Fund of The Oregon
 Community Foundation
 Springfield Utility Board
 The Freshwater Trust
 Weyerhaeuser Foundation
 Wildish Company

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