

**AGENDA**  
**MCKENZIE WATERSHED COUNCIL**

**February 8, 2018**  
**Weyerhaeuser Co.**  
**785 N. 42<sup>nd</sup> (East Entrance)**  
**Springfield**

- 1. Introductions and Approval of Agenda** **5:00 – 5:05**  
Wade Stampe, Facilitator  
*Action Requested:* Approve agenda.
  
- 2. General Public Comment Session** **5:05 – 5:10**  
*The Council invites public comment on any watershed issue related to its mission. The time limit for comments is three minutes. If you wish to make a comment, please complete a public comment card and provide it to staff before the session. The Council’s adopted public comment procedures are on the reverse side of this agenda.*
  
- 3. Approval of January Meeting Minutes** **5:10 – 5:15**  
*Action Requested:* Approve minutes. (Attachment)
  
- 4. Cougar Downstream Passage Project** **5:15 – 6:00**  
Christine Budai and Kelly Janes, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
*Action Requested:* Question and comments
  
- BREAK**
  
- 5. Partner Announcements** **6:10 – 6:30**
  
- 6. Staff Reports** **6:30 – 6:40**  
(Attachment)
  
- 7. Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Outreach and Fundraising Campaign** **6:40 – 7:10**  
MWC staff (Attachment)  
*Action Requested:* Consideration of adopting campaign and forming a committee

**Next Meeting:**

- Date: March 8, 2018
- Time: 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- Location: McKenzie Fire & Rescue 42870 McKenzie Highway Leaburg
- Presentation: Western Cascade Fire Ecology, Jane Kertis and Steve Acker, USFS

**Contact:** Jared Weybright, 458-201-8150, [jared@mckenziawc.org](mailto:jared@mckenziawc.org), [www.mckenziawc.org](http://www.mckenziawc.org)

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURES MCKENZIE WATERSHED COUNCIL**

Adopted February 14, 2013

A general public comment period of at least ten minutes will be placed on each agenda at the beginning of the meeting. During this session, testimony is allowed on any matter relevant to the Council's mission. The facilitator shall determine relevance. The time limit for comments is three minutes, which can be reduced at the discretion of the facilitator. The facilitator also may allow public comment or questions on specific agenda items as they are addressed, with a three-minute time limit. The facilitator has the discretion to end public testimony if needed to make sure the Council completes its business.

Before members of the public may provide comments, first they must be recognized by the facilitator. Individuals should raise their hands to be recognized and provide their names and the organizations they represent, if any. The Council will require speakers to fill out a public comment card identifying themselves and the topic they wish to address.

Each agenda should include a statement describing these public comment procedures.

### **COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT**

To foster better stewardship of 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, collaboration and public awareness.

### **MEETING AGREEMENTS**

- Honor the agenda or modify by agreement
- Candid and constructive conversation
- Ask questions for clarification and understanding
- Monitor speaking time
- Focus on problems (issues) not people
- Avoid sidebar conversations
- Listen carefully to each other; focus on content not style

### **ROLE OF THE FACILITATOR**

- Use meeting agreements for guidance
- Refrain from contributing your own ideas (if you feel strongly about providing an opinion on a certain issue, pass the gavel temporarily to another Exec. member)
- Keep group's attention focused on agenda items
- Make sure everyone has a chance to participate
- Maintain agreed upon time schedule
- Summarize to move from one topic to another (but don't try to bias what was just decided by the council)
- Coming to consensus:
  - Highlight where participants agree
  - Identify areas of disagreement
  - Develop plan for achieving consensus

**Draft Minutes**  
**McKenzie Watershed Council**  
**January 11, 2018**  
**Springfield Utility Board, 223 A St. Suite F**  
**Springfield**

**PRESENT**

*Council Partners:* Diane Albino (Mohawk Watershed Partnership), Brian Brazil (International Paper), Bob Bumstead (McKenzie Flyfishers), Lara Colley (Resident Partner), Nate Day (McKenzie School District), Daniel Dietz (McKenzie River Trust), Rod Fosback (Northwest Steelheaders), David Kretzing (Resident Partner), Andy McWilliams (Resident Partner), Karl Morgenstern (EWEB), Ralph Perkins (Upper Willamette SWCD), Joe Pishioneri (City of Springfield), Maryanne Reiter (Weyerhaeuser), Wade Stampe (Resident Partner), Sue Zeni (Resident Partner),  
*Staff:* Justin Demeter, Jennifer Weber, Jared Weybright, Chase Antonovich  
*Guest:* Maggie O'Driscoll (Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council)

**ABSENT**

Arlene Dietz (Rice Family Farms), Libby Morrison (Wildish), Dana Burwell (McKenzie River Guides)

**PROXIES**

Ralph Perkins for Arlene Dietz (Rice Family Farms), Bob Bumstead for Dana Burwell (McKenzie River Guides)

**1. Introduction and Approval of Agenda**

The proposed agenda approved as written, all partners showing consensus level 3.

**2. General Public Comment Session**

There was no public comment.

**3. December 2017 Meeting Minutes**

Consensus approval as presented, all partners showing consensus level 3.

**4. Partner Announcements**

Nancy Toth, reported that the Source Water Protection Program's 10-year Strategic Plan was reviewed by the EWEB Board and that implementation of its respective programs will move forward largely as planned. Overall this is positive news for EWEB staff and partners.

David Kretzing, commented that the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Lower South Fork Floodplain Enhancement Project is currently out for public comment. The deadline for comments is February 10<sup>th</sup> of this year. The public and MWC Partners are encouraged to view the Willamette National Forest website for more information or to view the document.

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=43959>

Andy McWilliams reported on the status of The McKenzie River Discovery Park project. The Friends of the Old McKenzie Fish Hatchery continue to move forward with Interpretive Center planning. The board is focused on the feasibility of current fundraising goals. The board has recruited several new members, with one member donating \$25,000. The other new recruit has longstanding family connections to the river. The board remains enthusiastic about the project. On a separate note tickets for the Wayfarer sponsored, Four Seasons of the McKenzie, are still available.

Emily Semple is now the Eugene City Council liaison to the City's sustainability commission, which may or may not have relevance to the MWC.

Chad Helms stated that the USACE Willamette Fisheries Science Review is scheduled for early February at the LaSells Stewart Center in Corvallis. Mr. Helms encourages all interested parties to sign up if interested. The event is free. Notes and presentation summaries will be available to everyone who registers.

Ralph Perkins brought up a workshop "Attracting Native Pollinators," that the UWSWCD is sponsoring. The UWSWCD is enthusiastic about the event, which will feature Mace Vaughan, a renowned expert on pollinators. The workshop is scheduled for February 6<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, at the Unitarian Church, 1685 W 13<sup>th</sup> Street in Eugene. Doors open at 6:30. Mr. Perkins will work with council staff to get more information out to partners.

Jeff Ziller provided information about their newest employee, Jeremy Romer, the new district assistant fish biologist. Mr. Romer will have taken over for Kelly Reis. He brings a strong research background to the district having spent the last six years working out of the ODFW Research and Development Lab in Corvallis. He has spent significant time working on local reservoirs such as Fall Creek and Lookout Point. Mr. Ziller also added that the Oregon Chapter of American Fish Societies will be meeting in Eugene this year. He added that they will be meeting at the Hilton March 14<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>, and encouraged fellow council members to attend if they are interested, as there is slated to be a lot of great talks.

Carol Ach inquired with Mr. Ziller about the state of the Leaburg hatchery. Mr. Ziller responded by explaining that the hatchery still has a handful of rainbow trout to be released, as well as some Coho which were relocated to Leaburg from the Cascade Hatchery following the fires in the Gorge this last year. He added that those Coho will be returned to the Gorge in April of this year. Mr. Ziller added that ODFW will be retaining water rights at Leaburg, roughly a 40/60 split between ODFW and the USACE. Additionally, ODFW is still working on the completion of a 2018 stocking schedule.

Daniel Dietz brought up the Four Seasons of the McKenzie concert, a partnership with the Eugene Symphony, stating that it will include photos submitted by various members of the community, and encouraging folks to purchase tickets. The event is a fundraiser for the Trust.

## **5. Staff Reports**

Justin Demeter reported that there were several WATERS outings that occurred in December prior to a winter break. Stream Habitat crews braved the cold to survey several side channels on the Lower South Fork McKenzie River. The Thurston HS Water Quality team began monitoring four sites on the South Fork, and the Springfield HS Water Quality team continued monitoring at urban sites in Springfield. Springfield Public School middle school teams completed work at BWCA and will move to the Dehne property off Deerhorn Road in January. Coburg Charter Middle School resumed work at Green Island in early January. The Mohawk HS and McKenzie HS Water Quality teams resumed monitoring in early January. In early January, high school teams began data analysis lab work in preparation for spring presentations. A Salmon Watch Volunteer Appreciate Event is planned for January 19<sup>th</sup>. All participants in the 2017 season are welcome and encouraged to attend. Contact Mr. Demeter for further details.

Jennifer Weber reported that staff continues to work with PWP landowners as part of its outreach efforts. A total 24 landowners have responded with interest in the riparian assessment and potential program participation. Of these landowners, five sites have progressed to having the desktop GIS assessment completed, and nine access agreements have been completed. Site visits will continue to occur in January. Ms. Weber is finalizing details on an application to the OWEB Small Grant Program. The application will fund riparian restoration on the Dehne property. She expect to begin site preparations in spring/summer 2018. Staff continues to meet with partners and potential contractors to finalize planning and budgets for the Lower South Fork Floodplain Enhancement Project.

Amanda Gilbert introduced the council's new employee, Chase Antonovich, who began as the new Operations Assistant on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Antonovich previously interned with the Council during the 2016 Salmon Watch Season, and was a regular volunteer at Salmon Watch in 2017. He is a regular boater and angler of the McKenzie River and is enthusiastic about the opportunity to work with the Council. Welcome Chase!

Jared Weybright reported that staff completed the 2017 Annual 412 Technical Team Report in December. The report provides background on the 412 Technical Team, an update on 2017 activities, and status of previously funded conservation and restoration projects. Staff also completed final reporting requirements for a 2015 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Bring Back the Natives (BBN) program in support of the Deer Creek Floodplain Enhancement Project. The report summaries project implementation over the course of 2016-17 and monitoring efforts completed in 2017. Both reports are available upon request.

Ms. Gilbert and Mr. Weybright met with the Senator Jeff Merkley's local field representative, Country Flathers, in mid-December. A press release from the EPA announcing local environmental education-funding award caught her attention. The hour-long meeting summarized the Councils education and restoration programs, highlighted local

partnerships and touched on funding challenges. It was a great opportunity to open up lines of communication and develop a relationship.

Carol Ach inquired about the recent rockslide in above Cougar Dam. Several Partners responded that the USFS was still working on assessing the slide and plans for removal.

## **6. Presentation: Watershed Action Teams for Enhancement, Restoration, and Stewardship**

Justin Demeter, education coordinator for the McKenzie Watershed Council, alongside Maggie O'Driscoll, education coordinator for the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council, gave a presentation on the WATERS program. WATERS focuses on the direct involvement of students in hands-on, inquiry- and field-based projects centered in environmental education for middle and high school students. This program allows students to utilize the scientific method in real world situations, while promoting collaboration between students and the community. The presentation included a description of the program, primary goals, schools involved, project locations, and collaborative partnerships. Student projects provides data for use in BLM and USFS stream projects, and for the regional EWEB water quality database. Mr. Demeter and Ms. O'Driscoll summarized the program's annual budget and outlined funding challenges. Strategies for acquiring more funding were introduced. The presentation will be available on the MWC website.

Rod Fosback inquired as to why there are currently no Eugene schools involved in the program. Mr. Demeter answered that Coburg Charter is a 4J middle school, and that Council staff capacity is a limiting issue for working with additional schools. Mr. Weybright added that 4J currently has an environmental-focused program (Rachel Carson, solar-powered cars, Salmon Watch for elementary schools) funded through EWEB. He noted that we have partnered with them in the past, but they set their own priorities which hasn't left many partnership opportunities.

When asked about the potential to work with charter schools or home schools, Mr. Demeter brought up how Coburg Charter School and a home-school group have attended Salmon Watch in past years. There is opportunity and limited capacity for further collaboration if the interest is there. The Coast Fork WC works with a Charter School – Child's Way.

Mr. Weybright added that the Council is proud of this program, and our ability to expand its regional footprint in partnership with the Coast Fork Watershed Council. He added that the Middle Fork WC is not currently in a position to join the program but other education partnership opportunities do exist. Mr. Weybright noted that the MWC is fortunate to have the funding they do, as environmental education funding is increasingly difficult to secure. This will likely be a reoccurring topic for Council Partners to discuss and consider.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:10**

**Next meeting: Weyerhaeuser 5-7, Springfield. Thursday, February 8, 2018**

**Presentation TBA**

**McKenzie Watershed Council  
Staff Reports  
January – February 2018**

**Education Program**

**Prepared by Justin Demeter**

The WATERS program continued to move in a positive direction throughout the month of January. Middle school classes picked up after a relaxing winter break with Springfield students conducting their service work at the Dehne property on Deerhorn Road, Coburg students continuing at Green Island, and McKenzie Middle School making a difference at Finn Rock Reach. The lesson this month for a majority of these classes has been water quality, with students from SPS performing their testing at Thurston High School's WELL Project lab.

The high school aquatic habitat survey teams continued their data analysis (lab time), and presentation preparation. Surveying will resume this month, as weather and flow conditions allow. Water quality teams at both McKenzie and Mohawk high schools resumed field work in January and will begin data analysis and presentation preparation this month.

The Salmon Watch Volunteer Appreciation event was a success with approximately 20 people in attendance. Thanks to all that participated! Justin met with representatives from both WREN and Linn-Benton Salmon Watch in an effort to reinforce a collaborative regional approach to our respective programs.

**Restoration Program**

**Prepared by Jennifer Weber**

Planning for the South Fork Project is ongoing. The USFS released an Environmental Assessment for public comment in early January. At the end of the 30-day public comment period, the MWC will release an RFP and begin work on contract solicitation and development. Final fundraising is also continuing.

Site preparation and planning for riparian plantings at two sites, Whitewater Ranch and Filacres, is ongoing. Jen is managing both projects. Jen completed a post-implementation report for the BWCA Floodplain Enhancement Phase I project. The report is available upon request.

**Directors/Operations Report**

**Prepared by Amanda Gilbert and Jared Weybright**

Jared attended a two and a half day Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) training hosted by the Center for Diversity & the Environment in Portland. The Meyer Memorial Trust (MMT) is funding watershed council participation as part of a basin-wide focus on improving DEI capacity among conservation organizations. Jared will be working with directors from other watershed councils and the Friends of Buford Park on a collaborative approach to DEI with a separate grant from MMT. That group met in December and January to plan and discuss a variety of collaborative projects. Jared will provide more information on this effort at the next Board meeting.

Jared attended a second meeting of the Willamette River Anchor Habitat Working group. Restoration projects developed and vetted through this group are eligible for funding through BPA and MMT. Certain projects that were included as priority projects in the group's successful FIP application to OWEB are eligible for that funding source as well. The MWC submitted an unsuccessful FIP application of its

own and did not participate in the Willamette FIP process. Anchor Habitat in the McKenzie is limited to the lower river downstream of the Mohawk confluence.

**Funding Update**

| <b>Project</b>          | <b>Funding Source</b>                   | <b>Amount</b> | <b>Status and notes</b>   |
|-------------------------|---|---------------|---|
| South Fork              | Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative | \$150,000     | Pending. Funding decision anticipated in March. New funding source that WNF and MWC have been talking to for several years. SF is one of a 3-4 Willamette projects they are looking to fund in FY2018 |
| South Fork              | USFWS                                   | \$150,000     | Pending. Funding decision anticipated in March. The WNF has been working with the USFWS throughout SF project development and planning.   |
| South Fork              | WNTI                                    | \$23,135      | Pending, expect to hear back in February  |
| Lower Deer Creek        | OWEB                                    | \$75,506      | Ranked 6 <sup>th</sup> out of 16 restoration applications submitted from Willamette organizations. OWEB will make final funding decisions by April.   |
| Gate Creek Development  | OWEB                                    | \$15,180      | Ranked 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 9 technical assistance applications submitted from Willamette organizations. OWEB will make final funding decisions by April.   |
| Spotted Frog Monitoring | OWEB                                    | \$55,152      | OWEB technical review still in process. Expect recommendations later in February and final funding allocations by April.  |
| Total Pending funding   | \$468,973                               |               |   |

**McKenzie Watershed Council**  
**Twenty-fifth Anniversary Outreach Campaign**  
**Conceptual Outline**  
**February 8, 2018**

**Background**

In response to increased awareness and understanding of the need for non-regulatory solutions to local conservation challenges, a range of local citizens, organizations and government agencies began meeting as the McKenzie Watershed Council in 1993. The MWC was official recognized by Lane County in 1994. To the best of our knowledge, this makes the McKenzie the oldest watershed council in Oregon. Depending on how the initial start date is classified, 2018 or 2019 is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the organization. This silver anniversary marks a fleeting and unique outreach and fundraising opportunity. The following is a conceptual outline of a potential public campaign to raise the profile of the MWC and raise funds from a more diverse range of local citizens, organizations and business.

**Goals**

Borrowing from outreach planning associated with mainstem Willamette River restoration efforts we identify three draft goals for the campaign:

1. Enhance awareness of MWC's voluntary and collaborative approach to resource conservation and stewardship.
2. Increase funder diversity and support for the MWC by expanding the number of contributing individuals, businesses and organizations.
3. In collaboration with partners in the Upper Willamette River Basin, explore opportunities to understand and engage new stakeholders

**Strategies**

Again, borrowing from the Willamette effort, we propose three strategies for accomplishing campaign goals. *The assumption is that these strategies, along with Actions, will help identify and develop specific and measurable objectives over the course of a more thorough planning period.* All approaches should consider similar fund raising and/or outreach efforts from partners (MRT, Upper Willamette Collaborative) and existing programs (Pure Waters Program).

1. Highlight projects/programs and collaborative accomplishments.
2. Share approaches and lessoned learned over the 25-year history.
3. Engage non-traditional stakeholders and advance diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) principals.

**Audiences**

Target audiences would include both broad based and targeted outreach.

1. Citizens (landowners and non-landowners) within the McKenzie River Sub-basin.
2. The greater Eugene-Springfield urban area.
3. Local businesses.
4. Funders (foundation, public agencies).
5. Partners (other non-profit organizations, landowners, schools).

### **Potential Outreach Actions**

- Form MWC committee to help guide planning (rely on several key partners like MRT)
- Complete outreach campaign plan (i.e. refine goal(s) and strategy(s), identify specific objectives, develop action plan).
- Revise website to accommodate campaign.
- Complete documentation of MWC timeline and story document.
- Complete documentation of select MWC projects and programs and display on “story map” housed on website.
- Seek out presentation opportunities to communities and organizations.
- Develop new partnerships with existing organizations (McKenzie CDC).
- In partnership with other local organizations, develop DEI strategy.
- Develop educational field trip plan (restoration project tours, educational trips to unique and remarkable spots in the McKenzie River sub-basin, tours/events highlighting education projects).
- Local media outreach.
- Formal event/dinner and/or BBQ.
- Salmon Celebration.

### **Timeline**

- February 2018; presentation to Council Partners
- March – June 2018: form campaign committee, meet monthly to develop plan
- June 2018: Present plan to Council for adoption
- Summer/Fall 2018: begin campaign
- Fall 2018 – Summer 2019: campaign activities
- Fall 2019: Concluding event

### **Logistics**

Amanda Gilbert and Jared Weybright will manage the campaign and facilitate the MWC committee. The addition of the half-time Operation Assistant to the MWC staff, allows for a portion (up to 0.25 FTE) of Amanda’s time to be devoted to this effort. The proposed timeline will allow Jared to devote approximately 0.25 FTE to the campaign once South Fork Phase I implementation is complete in summer 2018.