

AGENDA
McKenzie Watershed Council
Thursday, December 8, 2022
International Paper
785 N 42nd St, Springfield, OR 97478
5:10 – 7:15 p.m.

Please enter through the door on the east (see attached map).

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| 1. Introductions | 5:00 - 5:15 |
| Please use this time to mingle and take advantage of a sandwich bar and snacks | |
| 2. Approval of Agenda | 5:15 - 5:20 |
| <i>Action Requested – Approve December Meeting Agenda.</i> | |
| 3. Approval of November 10th Meeting Minutes | 5:25 - 5:30 |
| Attachment: November Meeting Minutes | |
| <i>Action Requested – Approve November meeting minutes.</i> | |
| 4. New Springfield Scholarship Fund | 5:30 – 5:45 |
| Long-time cooperative partner Stuart Perlmeter will present on a scholarship to serve Springfield youth that he and his wife Ann have established with the MWC | |
| <i>Information only</i> | |
| 5. Urban Waters and Wildlife Program | 5:45 – 6:30 |
| Sarah Whitney, Urban Restoration & Stormwater Specialist with the Long Tom Watershed Council and a registered Landscape Architect, will present on the Urban Waters & Wildlife Program (UWWP), which is focused on developing voluntary onsite stormwater retrofits on priority properties in the greater Eugene and Springfield urban area. | |
| <i>Information only</i> | |
| Break | 6:30 – 6:40 |
| 6. Partner Updates and Public Comment | 6:40 – 7:10 |
| Overview of Fiscal Year 2023 Budget and highlights from planned 2023 projects | |
| <i>Information Only</i> | |
| 7. Nominating Committee | 7:10 – 7:15 |
| The Council Charter calls for the formation of a Nominating Committee to identify volunteers to fill open seats on the McKenzie Watershed Alliance Board of Directors. The Committee will be charged with identifying volunteer(s) to fill 1-2 open seats on the Board. | |
| <i>Action Requested: Identify 2 Council Partners to join the Executive Direction on the 2022-23 Nominating Committee</i> | |
| <i>Attachment: MWA Board Roster.</i> | |

Contact: Jared Weybright, 458-201-8150, jared@mckenziawc.org, www.mckenziawc.org

MINUTES
McKenzie Watershed Council
Thursday, November 10, 2022
McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Present: Bob Bumstead (McKenzie Flyfishes), Nate Day (McKenzie Schools), David Kretzing (Resident Partner), Andy McWilliams (Resident Partner), Steve Mealey (McKenzie Guides), Karl Morgenstern (EWEB), Ralph Perkins (UWSWCD), Martyne Ressman (ODFW), Mark River (HJ Andrews), Jeremy Romer (ODFW), Carla Rothenbuecher (Resident Partner), Nancy Toth (EWEB), Kelly Wood (Wildish), Sue Zeni (Resident Partner)

Staff: Chase Antonovich, Lara Colley, Jessica Jackman, Jared Weybright, Joseph Ycaza

Proxy: Karl Morgenstern for City of Springfield

1. 500 Years of Fire in the McKenzie River Valley

Dr. Andrew Merschel, of the USFS PNW Research Station, presented on the historic role of wildfires and their influence on Douglas Fir ecosystems. Dr. Merschel summarized key findings from an extensive tree ring dataset collected across Oregon's west Cascades that records wildfires and forest dynamics over the past 500 years.

Bob Bumstead asked if the consistent fires occurring roughly every 5 years is a result of native people setting fires. Dr. Merschel responded that there is evidence in areas of the middle fork Willamette and North fork Umpqua that fires occurred every 3-5 years including years with cool summers, up until roughly 1856. These factors line up with traditional burnings.

Steve Mealey asked how changes in weather and fire frequency are going to align with what we have learned over the centuries, and if he feels that the Holiday Farm Fire was characteristic of his findings. Dr. Merschel responded that his research can only be retrospective. He continued that Douglas Fir can go long periods of time without fire, and can survive higher severity fires. He continued that the replanting efforts go against what has occurred naturally. Dr. Merschel continued that his sampling does not focus on river corridors and East wind pathways like that of the McKenzie, but he assumed that if he did the Holiday Farm Fire would be relatively common although it was particularly extreme.

Karl Morgenstern asked what kind of landscape provides habitat with native benefits while being fire intolerant. Dr. Merschel responded that on the West side of the Cascades, there is little opportunity to cultivate fire intolerant forests because of how productive our forests are. He continued that mature forests are the best places to stop fire from starting, so maintaining those is crucial. Communities that exist in industrial forests will always produce a ton of fuel, and are increasingly susceptible to weather events.

2. Approval of October Meeting Minutes

Karl Morgenstern motioned to approve the October 13th meeting minutes. Meeting minutes approved as written, all partners showing consensus level 3

3. Partner Announcements

Andy McWilliams reported that the Wayfarer is working with Branch Engineering to complete a site plan for their rebuild.

Nancy Toth reported that EWEB storm sampling is ongoing. She continued that last Friday night in the Holiday Farm Fire perimeter there was high turbidity seen for a short period of time although they are still awaiting results. Gate Creek, Simmons Creek, and Quartz Creek stood out for turbidity. Additionally, Ms. Toth noted that there is a gauging station now on Quartz Creek that will soon begin recording discharge.

David Kretzing reported that he led a group of middle school students from a home-school group in Eugene on a trip to Deer Creek where they discussed the site history and looked at the recently completed restoration project.

Nate Day reported that he is grateful for a normal school year, and has taken his WATERS students to view salmon spawning, as well as the Deer Creek project.

Bob Bumstead reported that the annual river cleanup went really well, with the McKenzie Fly Fishers covering Hendricks Bridge to Armitage. Mr. Bumstead continued that Salmon Watch is ongoing, and Emma is working hard to fill spots on Whittaker Creek. Lastly, Mr. Bumstead noted that the McKenzie Fly Fishers presented Jeff Ziller with an outstanding service award for 30+ years of great work.

Bob Bumstead – MFF gave Ziller outstanding service award for 30+ years

Steve Mealey reported that the Leaburg Library will be dedicating 500 volumes of irreplaceable angling literature on December 10th from 2pm-4pm.

Kelly Wood reported that the updated County flood maps did not end up including updates to the McKenzie, due to the Holiday Farm Fire.

4. Directors Report

Jared Weybright provided several brief updates. Mr. Weybright reported that the office has been working well, with staff utilizing the space often. He continued that the Council will likely hire 2 additional staff in the next year, one focused on PWP outreach and the other a tribal liaison position.

Mr. Weybright continued that October was very busy with tours of restoration sites. He noted tours with both elected officials as well as tribal representatives.

Planting season is approaching, with the goal to plant roughly 400,000 native trees and shrubs in the Holiday Farm Fire perimeter. Mr. Weybright noted that if this is successful, the Council will have topped 1 million trees since the Holiday Farm Fire.

Nancy Toth noted that there is a planting event at Ben and Kay Dorris Park scheduled for November 19th. Information can be found on the MRT or MWC social media pages, and interested parties are encouraged to sign up while spots are still available.

Additionally, there is a postfire reforestation recovery workshop put on by OSU Extension scheduled for Dec 13th.

Meeting adjourned, 7:05 pm.

**McKenzie Watershed Alliance
Board of Directors
2022**

ARLENE DIETZ

President

Appointed: Jan 2021

Term Expires: Jan 2023

Rice Family Farms

dietzal@aol.com

Biography:

Retired from the USACE and currently the Manager/Owner of Rice Farms LLC specializing in production of hazelnuts on 300 acres. Positions held include Chief of Economics, USACE Chicago District, Director of Navigation Data Center, and Institute for Water Resources and economics instructor at University of Wisconsin Kenosha and Waukesha. First women president of the American Water Resource Association. Lower McKenzie River resident and landowner.

RALPH PERKINS

Treasurer

Appointed Jan 2020

Term Expires: Jan 2022

Upper Willamette Soil & Water Conservation District

rperkins@epud.net

Biography: High school teacher for 35 years with a focus on forestry and natural resources. Owns and manages an 18-acre timber land property. Also serves on the Board of Directors of Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District.

KARL MORGENSTERN

Secretary

Appointed: Feb 2021

Term Expires: Feb 2022

EWEB Watershed Restoration Program Manager

Karl.MORGENSTERN@eweb.org

Biography:

Served as EWEB Source Water Protection Supervisor for over 15 years and is currently the EWEB Watershed Restoration Manager following the Holiday Farm Fire. Lead the development of the Pure Water Partners and a number of other innovative programs and collaborative partnerships focused on watershed monitoring, protection, and restoration. He previously served on the Board of the Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District and worked for the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

KELLY WOOD

McKenzie Watershed Alliance Board of Directors

Appointed Feb 2021

Term Expires: Feb 2023

Wildish Sand and Gravel

kellyw@wildish.com

Biography:

Graduated from the University of Oregon with a Bachelor's Degree in Geological Sciences. Worked as a Project Geologist for the Oregon Department of Transportation

(ODOT) Region 4 Technical Center for five years prior to accepting a position with the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) where she became the Permitting Lead for the Mineral Land Regulation and Reclamation Program. In 2018, she accepted an offer to join Wildish as the Safety and Land Manager. Also serves on the LRAPA Citizens Advisory Committee and the LCC Advisory Committee.

SUE ZENI

McKenzie Watershed Alliance Board of Directors

Appointed Feb 2022

Term Expires: Feb 2024

Resident Partner

McKenzie small wood lot owner

suszen@msn.com

Retired from International Paper/Weyerhaeuser after 33 years of multiple positions including Senior Project Engineer, Quality Manager, and Environmental Engineer. Also retired from Hummingbird Wholesale in the position of Operations Manager. Professional Engineering Certificate in Oregon in Civil and Environmental Engineering. Currently President of Eugene Mountain Rescue and a small business owner, including a small wood lot in the McKenzie Valley.

WADE STAMPE

Appointed May 2022

Term Expires: May 2024

Resident Partner

stampe@clearwire.net

Biography:

Retired US Army Corps of Engineers. Served as Operations Project Manager with the Willamette Project for over 20 years. Directly responsible for all USACOE dams in the Willamette Valley. Coordinated grant funding, planning, and construction and operation of restoration projects. Mechanical engineering background. Lower McKenzie River resident and landowner.

DAVID KRETZIG

Appointed May 2022

Term Expires: May 2024

Resident Partner

dkretzig@msn.com

Graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a BS Degree in Earth Sciences in 1977, followed by a nearly 40 year career with the US Forest Service. I Held positions in Wildland Fire Management and Timber Sale Contract Administration on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Silviculture and Soil and Watershed Management on the Willamette National Forest, Soil and Water Program Management and Forest Hydrologist on the Malheur National Forest, and finished up on the Willamette National Forest(again) as the District Hydrologist on the McKenzie River Ranger District and Forest Hydropower Coordinator. Since retirement in 2012, I have continued to be involved in natural resource management and environmental education as a volunteer with the Mt St Helens Institute, the OR Master Naturalist Program, and the McKenzie Watershed Council/Alliance.