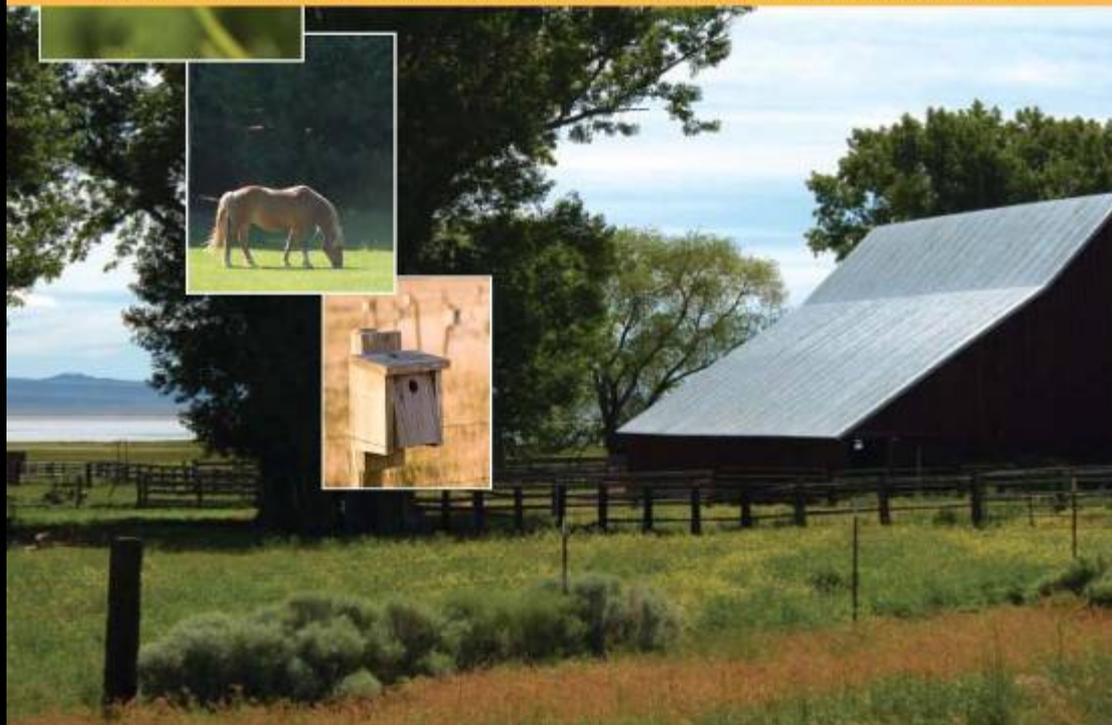


STEPS

for **HEALTHY & SUSTAINABLE**
RURAL LIVING on **SMALL ACREAGES** in
Oregon



Tools and Resources to Design a Customized Land Management Strategy for Your Small Acreage Property...



Helping Small Acreage Landowners Help the Land

STEPS Workbook

Goals

- Provide conservation information to non-farm rural landowners
- Help them identify conservation needs and strategies
- Direct them to sources of assistance

Initial Development

- Fall 2008
- Pilot printing/distribution
- Positive feedback



SET Land Management Goals



If you live in rural Oregon, you likely enjoy the peaceful countryside and scenic landscapes. You have a connection to your land, and you want to do all you can to care for it. The worksheets in this packet will help you identify strategies to maintain and improve the natural resources on your property. To begin, you should develop your vision for the future and how you want your land to look in the coming years. You may want to improve conditions or maintain the land as it is. Whatever your goals, planning for specific outcomes will help you make good decisions now and in the future. This is the first step to a land management strategy that is right for you, your family and your property.

Instructions: First, record your vision for the land in the coming years. Include what you want the property to look like and how you plan to use the land. Then, identify the specific land management goals that relate to your overall vision. Corresponding outcomes are provided on the right to help you focus and prioritize your efforts to reach each goal. Use the blank space provided to list more details relevant to your situation.

Site

Date

Vision for the Land in 5 to 10 Years

For example: *The water in our stream is clean and provides habitat for native fish. Blackberries and weeds have been eliminated and/or controlled on our property. We have established a productive pumpkin patch in the northeast field. We are able to keep and graze four horses while protecting the condition of our pastures and streams.*

Goals	Outcomes
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve or maintain the aesthetic beauty of the property and the quality of life for your family.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected land uses are carried out in a sustainable manner that helps you maintain a desirable quality of life over time. Plant and animal pests are kept in check. Healthy plant communities and a scenic landscape are maintained over time. Excess water from heavy rains does not damage structures, roads, streambanks, livestock or crops; runoff does not convey contaminants to ground and surface waters. . .
<input type="checkbox"/> Keep healthy horses, cattle or other livestock on the property.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animals stay healthy with proper diet and conditions. Animals have plenty of high quality forage to graze. Streams are protected from animal waste and trampled streambanks. Manure is properly handled and does not present a hazard to people, water bodies or animals. Livestock odors are managed appropriately for the area. . .

MAP Your Property



The next step in designing a customized management strategy is to inventory the features and uses of your property on a land use map. Below

is an example that illustrates the types of features to include when developing a map of your own property. The base image of the schematic below is a print out from the **Web Soil Survey**, a free online natural resource information system. Web Soil Survey is available to the public at:

<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>

To create your map, download an image from the *Web Soil Survey* or another map source as your base. Then, mark the fields, structures, land forms, water bodies, problem areas, and other notable uses and features. Or, you can sketch a basic hand drawing of the property's main features on the following page.

The map you create will be your reference point for planning future activities, such as placement of fences or tree plantings. Keep the map as a record of your baseline, or starting point. As you implement changes, update your property map to indicate any added measures.

Using Web Soil Survey

You can do much more than generate a map with *Web Soil Survey*. Go to the **Suitabilities and Limitations for Use** section under the **Soil Data Explorer** tab. The information available here includes:

Land Classification: Maps and reports for Farmland Classification to identify areas of prime farmland or Capability Class (a ranking of soil suitability for cropland).

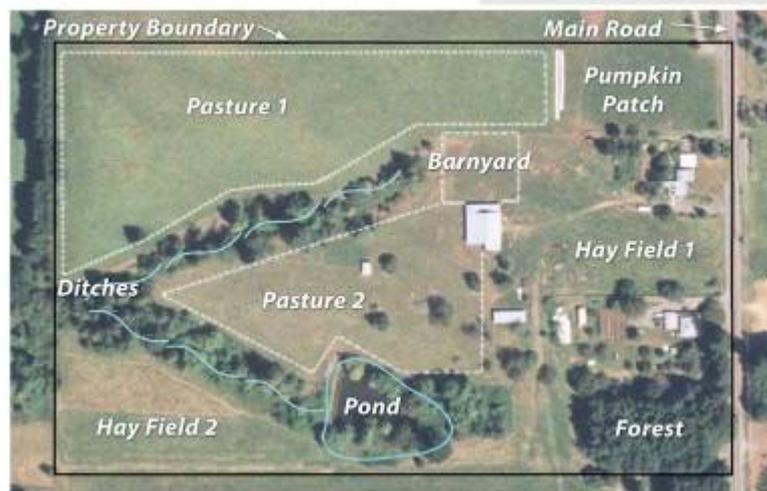
Vegetative Productivity: Maps and reports of expected crop yields for a variety of crops, including hay and pasture.

Building Site Development: Maps and reports with information on soil limitations for home sites.

Soil Properties and Qualities: Information on depth to seasonal high water tables as well as flooding and ponding frequency.

Site Breezy Hills Farm

Date Sept. 2008



INVENTORY Your Natural Resources



Now that you have mapped your property, use this worksheet to capture more detailed information about each distinct section of the property, including land use, size, soils, plants, problems and general observations about conditions. The example below is based on the sample property that was mapped in the previous section.

Field/Acres: List each distinct section of the property and the approximate size.

Land Uses: List the major land uses for each section.

Soil: Look up your soil types online at the *Web Soil Survey* Web site at: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>. While you are there, be sure to take notes on—or print out—the soil suitabilities, limitations, properties and reports for soils in your area as appropriate. You may also want to print and attach a soil map. Further information on using Web Soil Survey can be found on pages 7 and 14, on the Web Soil Survey home page, or from your local NRCS or SWCD office.

Concerns: Note anything about each section of property that may be an eyesore, natural resource concern, seasonal problem, maintenance hassle or production issue. Or, simply note those things that you would like to improve over time.

Site *Breezy Hills Farm* Date *Sept. 2008*

Field	Acres	Land Use	Soil Type & Characteristics	Concerns: Natural Resource, Maintenance & Others
<i>pasture 1</i>	<i>5 ac</i>	<i>grazing</i>	<i>mapped as clay surface layer 8-15% slope slow intake rate</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>uneven grazing</i> • <i>poor grass stands</i> • <i>muddy area on south side</i>
<i>pasture 2</i>	<i>3 ac</i>	<i>grazing</i>	<i>same as above</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>uneven grazing</i> • <i>poor grass stands</i> • <i>muddy area on north side</i> • <i>weeds</i>
<i>hay field 1</i>	<i>1.25 ac</i>	<i>hay</i>	<i>same as above</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>weeds</i> • <i>lack of water during dry months</i>
<i>hay field 2</i>	<i>2 ac</i>	<i>hay</i>	<i>sandy surface 5% slope</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>weeds</i> • <i>lack of water during dry months</i> • <i>erosion into ditch</i> • <i>voles</i>
<i>forest land</i>	<i>1 ac</i>	<i>wildlife</i>	<i>unknown</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>weeds</i> • <i>excess debris on the ground</i>
<i>barnyard</i>	<i>.75 ac</i>	<i>feeding livestock</i>	<i>unknown</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>mud</i> • <i>removal and storage of manure</i> • <i>dirty runoff into other areas</i>
<i>pumpkin patch</i>	<i>1.25 ac</i>	<i>pumpkins</i>	<i>mapped as clay surface layer slow intake rate</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>weeds</i> • <i>soil fertility</i> • <i>sprayed chemicals could drift over homestead</i>

FOREST Condition Assessment

Reference TIPS
brochure, pg. 9

Worksheet



With proper management, you can maintain healthy forest land. All forests can be managed for a single use, such as timber production, or for multiple uses, such as wildlife habitat, recreation, livestock grazing and/or timber production. To help you manage your forest land, you need to decide which of these uses are important to you. You likely have a primary use planned that will guide your overall management and decision-making processes. If secondary and tertiary uses are also important to you, allow these to guide your decisions as well. This worksheet will help you ensure that the vegetation and ecosystems on your forest land function properly for the land uses you have identified.

In a healthy forest, the larger overstory trees, smaller understory trees, and ground vegetation are all in good condition. The distribution of vegetation and the number of trees per acre will differ depending upon where your property is located within the state. Soil type, precipitation, temperature, tree species, and your land use objectives are also factors that affect the density and distribution of vegetation on your forest land.

Instructions: Conduct a basic assessment of your forest land by answering the following questions. Suggestions to help you address specific management issues are listed directly under each section. If you identify management needs and issues that may require professional assistance, refer to the last page of this **Forest Condition Assessment** for a list of resources.

Site

Date

1. Identify the tree species on your forest land.

Select all that are present:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Douglas fir | <input type="checkbox"/> Western larch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ponderosa pine | <input type="checkbox"/> Bigleaf maple |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grand fir | <input type="checkbox"/> Red alder |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White fir | <input type="checkbox"/> Sitka spruce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Western hemlock | <input type="checkbox"/> Oregon white oak |

Others:

↳ There are many references to help you identify the tree species present in Oregon. A good place to start is the *Common Trees of the Pacific Northwest* page on the Oregon State University Web site at:

<http://oregonstate.edu/trees/>

↳ Your local natural resources contact may suggest additional sources of information. List these other useful tree identification and forestry Web sites below for future reference:

GRAZING Assessment

Reference TIPS
brochure, pg. 3-5

Worksheet



With good management, your pastures will produce vigorous grass stands with sufficient forage for the type and number of livestock you keep. The amount and quality of forage will depend on how you manage your land for grazing.

It is important to understand that livestock will graze less in areas that: contain plants that are not palatable as forage, are too far from water and mineral supplements, or are too large in size to encourage even use of the entire unit. With proper management, however, you can control how your animals graze and, therefore, improve pasture conditions and herd health. For example, many livestock owners fence large pastures into smaller units. Animals can then be rotated through the pastures on a planned schedule that gives forage time to rest and regrow vigorous stands. With rotational grazing, ranchers also have the opportunity to inspect animals more frequently and are often able to detect health problems in their herds earlier. At the same time, the soil benefits with less erosion and damage in heavy use areas. Also, controlling livestock movement results in better distribution of manure as plant fertilizer and reduces the risk of water contamination from concentrated nutrients in runoff.

Instructions: The following questions will help landowners conduct a basic self-assessment of their grazing management. Answer the questions below to identify areas where you may be able to improve grazing with pasture management strategies.

Site

Date

Grazing Assessment

1. On pastures and grazed land, how many of the plants are grazed by livestock, as compared to plants that livestock do not touch?

more than 80 percent

↳ You are managing for uniform grazing use and likely have a healthy mix of plants.

50 to 80 percent

↳ Grazing may be slightly improved with additional watering points, smaller grazing units, and/or targeted placement of salt/mineral supplements.

20 to 50 percent:

↳ Grazing would likely be improved by incorporating additional watering points, smaller grazing units, and/or targeted placement of salt/mineral supplements.

less than 20 percent:

↳ Consider replanting with forage species that are more suited to your livestock. Also consider adding additional watering points, smaller grazing units, and/or targeted placement of salt/mineral supplements.

2. Do you have a problem with livestock eating or coming into contact with noxious, invasive or undesirable plants? Check all that apply below, and then refer to the **Weed Management Strategy** section for information on weed control.

Noxious plants (plants which are on state/county noxious weed lists)

↳ Consider control measures as recommended by a licensed pesticide consultant. Change management practices to favor desired plant species.

Invasive plants (these plants may or may not be grazed, but will spread over time)

↳ Consider control measures as recommended by a licensed pesticide consultant. Change management practices to favor desired species.

Undesirable plants (plants may be grazed, but are not the best option)

↳ Consider improving grazing uniformity. Replanting with more desirable species and adding additional watering points, smaller grazing units, and/or targeted placement of salt/mineral supplements may help.

continued on next ►

STREAM Condition Assessment

Reference TIPS
brochure, pg. 6

Worksheet



This assessment will help you identify potential concerns for any stream or streamside area on your property. The questions below are designed to draw your attention to items that you may be able to improve. This tool was adapted from the Oregon State University Extension *Stream*A*Syst*¹ publication.

Instructions: Answer the questions below. For items to which you answer YES, read the following suggestions on how you can improve or protect your stream. A YES answer does not necessarily mean there is a problem, but it can help you focus your efforts as you learn more about the particular situation and possible courses of action. You can find resources for more information or assistance in the *Contacts* list at the bottom of each section.

Stream Condition Assessment	Site	Date
Issue	Indicators	
Water Pollution	Are there ever any signs of pollution such as soap bubbles, oil sheen, unusual odors, manure, sewage or trash in or along the stream? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes ↴ <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Use the <i>Home*A*Syst</i>² online assessment and/or the Manure Management worksheet in this packet to evaluate your situation.2. Check with upstream neighbors and/or have your septic system pumped and inspected.3. If problems with the septic system are found, make repairs.4. Contact a natural resource professional to evaluate the stream and make recommendations.5. Work with ODA to assess whether the problem requires notification of additional agencies. Contacts: septic pumping company, OSU Extension, SWCD/NRCS, local watershed council, neighbors, ODA, DEQ ³	
Algae	Is the water green? Is there a green scum or thick, stringy, green clumps? Or, is there a heavy, dirty-brownish, slimy material coating underwater objects? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes ↴ <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Determine whether nutrients from fertilizer or manure runoff are entering the stream from your property. If so, take preventative steps. If not, check with upstream neighbors. Contacts: SWCD/NRCS, watershed council, OSU Extension, neighbors	
Water Removal	Do water withdrawals or upstream dams ever result in extremely low water levels? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes ↴ <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Improve the efficiency of water use on your property.2. Check into financial incentives for returning allocated water to the stream. Contacts: SWCD/NRCS, OSU Extension, OWRD	

continued on next ➤

¹ The Stream Condition Assessment worksheet was adapted, with permission, from the Oregon State University Extension publication, EM 8671, *Stream*A*Syst: A tool to help you examine conditions on your property* (Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, June 2000, reprinted March 2001), 16 pages; available online at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu>

² *Home*A*Syst* is a homestead assessment system provided by the Oregon State University Extension developed to help evaluate possible risks to the groundwater and drinking water; available online at: <http://weilwater.oregonstate.edu/> under "assessment tools."

³ An acronym reference sheet is provided in the **Resources** section, beginning on page 57 of this packet.

MANURE Management Assessment

Reference TIPS
brochure, pg. 3, 5, 10

Worksheet



The way livestock owners manage animal manure can have a dramatic effect on the quality of surface and ground water—including the water you drink. Livestock owners should evaluate the concentration of animals on the property, the amount and timing of manure applications to crop fields and the area's soils, slope, precipitation and water table. These and other factors contribute to the risks that animal waste might present to the soil, water, air quality, plant health and wildlife habitat—as well as to livestock and human health. This worksheet can help you assess your operation and identify areas for improvement.

Instructions: Complete the following assessment if you own horses, cattle, goats, sheep or other animals. Each of the 16 assessment areas below addresses a different aspect of animal waste management. For each question that relates to your operation, select the statement that best describes practices and conditions on your land.

Site

Date

1. Do you use a **nutrient management plan** for balanced manure applications to meet crop and pasture needs?

N/A

High Risk

There is no nutrient management plan. (See definition below.)

High-Moderate Risk

Only commercial fertilizers are accounted for in the nutrient management plan.

Moderate-Low Risk

Commercial fertilizers and soil residual nutrients are accounted for in the nutrient management plan.

Low Risk

Commercial fertilizers, soil residual nutrients, irrigation water nitrates, legumes and manure are accounted for in the nutrient management plan.

What you can do: A **nutrient management plan** is an assessment of manure produced on a farm, how much of that manure is appropriate to apply on crops, and how to safely apply, remove or store it. For assistance in developing a nutrient management plan that promotes vigorous plant growth and a healthy environment, contact your local Oregon State University Extension office, Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), or Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Notes:

2. Soil tests:

N/A

High Risk

No soil testing is done.

High-Moderate Risk

Soil tests occur infrequently.

Moderate-Low Risk

Soil tests are done every 2 to 5 years.

Low Risk

Soil tests are done every year.

What you can do: Contact your local Extension office or a natural resource professional for information on how to have soil tests done for your operation. Refer to the **Soil Assessment & Management Options** worksheet (page 47) for more information.

Notes:

¹ The Manure Management Assessment worksheet was adapted, with permission, from the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension publications, EC 98-750-S, EC 98-752-S, EC 98-756-S, EC 98-758-S, EC 98-761-S. *Farm*A*Syst* (University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, July 1998, 16 pages.

² Contact information is provided in the **Resources** section beginning on page 57 of this packet.

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www.oregonstate.edu

IRRIGATION Assessment

Reference TIPS
brochure, pg. 4

Worksheet



The way you water your lawn, gardens, pastures and crops can have a significant impact on the quantity and quality of water in local streams and wells. In addition, excessive irrigation can be needlessly expensive and detrimental to plants. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, irrigation accounts for the largest use of fresh water in the United States, totaling 137 billion gallons of this precious resource used each day. The pumps and sprinklers powering these irrigation systems require fossil fuels and electricity to operate. In addition, when homeowners water their lawns and farmers irrigate their crops and pastures, the water not absorbed by plants eventually runs off into surface waters or seeps into groundwater supplies and can carry with it fertilizers, pesticides and a number of other pollutants. You can save water and help keep your streams and groundwater clean by adjusting the way you irrigate. Irrigation Water Management (IWM) is a term for the irrigation strategies landowners and farmers employ to help them save water, conserve energy and reduce the amount of contaminants entering water supplies. This worksheet will help you determine which irrigation water management strategies could improve conditions on your property.

Instructions: Complete the following worksheet to identify areas where you may be able to improve irrigation effectiveness and efficiency. This information will also be useful if you choose to work with a natural resource professional to develop a detailed irrigation plan.

Site

Date

1. Do you irrigate on a regular schedule or only when your plants need water?

- Only when needed On a regular schedule

↳ Scheduling regular irrigation by the calendar is less effective than watering according to actual plant needs. You can make your irrigation applications more efficient by understanding the relationship between how much irrigation water is applied and how much water is actually beneficial to the plants you are growing. The weather, plant size, plant condition, rooting depth, soil type and soil moisture at a given time all affect how much and how often you need to water. Generally speaking, plants use half as much water in May, June, September and October as they do in July and August.

Over-watering can reduce plant quality by drowning roots, stressing plants, causing root diseases, reducing nutrient uptake, and leaching nutrients and pesticides away from the root zone and into water supplies where they may be harmful. Applying only the amount of water that plants need will produce healthier plants that will be more resistant to disease and pests.

↳ Below are some of the steps you can take to determine when to irrigate. More information on each of these items can be found through the contacts listed at the end of this worksheet.

- Gather information to help you time irrigation applications with:

- Weather monitoring equipment
- Historical evapotranspiration (ET)
(the combined rate of water use by plants and evaporation from the soil surface, which can easily be found online)
- Soil-moisture sensors
- Crop observations
- Other methods

- Assess soil moisture by feel or by using field probes or other instruments.

- Adjust your irrigation schedule according to seasonal changes.



Assessment & Management Options

Reference TIPS
brochure, pg. 2

Now that you have completed the other worksheets that relate to your property, you have likely learned that most of your management decisions should take into account the qualities of the soils present on your land. The soil is inherently related to all other natural resources on your land. This worksheet was developed to help you identify the attributes of the soils, improve soil conditions, and make informed management decisions for your overall property.

- Step 1:** Conduct a visual soil assessment. For each distinct section of your property, answer the questions below that are appropriate for your land. Select the best time for assessment and take measurements at the same time every year. Take all measurements under adequate moisture conditions (i.e., not excessively dry or wet). Certain measurements, such as soil life, earthworms, structure and tillage are affected greatly by field operations and should be assessed before major tillage. Remember, this list is not all-inclusive, so be sure to take additional notes on the condition of the soil as necessary.

Soil Condition Assessment		Field			Date		
Indicator	When to Evaluate	Rating Description			Rating (circle one)		
		Low	Medium	High	Low	Med	High
Available Water Holding Capacity	Any time plants are actively growing; also when management changes	Plants are stressed immediately after rain or irrigation; soil has limited capacity to hold water; requires frequent irrigation	Crops are not the first in the area to suffer from a dry spell; soil requires average irrigation	Soil holds water well over time; deep topsoil for water storage; crops do well in dry spells; soil requires less than average irrigation	L	M	H
Compaction	When soil is moist but not wet; when roots have penetrated to tillage depth	Hard layers and tight soil; restricted root penetration; obvious hardpan; roots turned awkwardly	Firm soil; slightly restricted root penetration; moderate shovel resistance and penetration of wire flag beyond tillage layer	Loose soil; unrestricted root penetration; no hardpan; mostly vertical root plant growth	L	M	H
Crop Vigor/ Appearance/ Crop Disease	When plants are actively growing and soil moisture is adequate	Stunted growth, uneven stand, discoloration, low yields	Some uneven or stunted growth, slight discoloration, signs of stress	Healthy, vigorous, and uniform stand	L	M	H
Crusting	Before planting or during active growth and when soil moisture is adequate	Soil surface seals easily; seed emergence inhibited	Some surface sealing	Soil surface has open or porous surface all season	L	M	H
Earthworms/ Soil Organisms	Before planting or tillage; when soil is moist	Few worms, insects, fungi, or instances of soil life per shovel; no casts or holes	More worms, insects, fungi, or soil life per shovel; some casts or holes	Many worms, insects, fungi, and/or soil life per shovel; many casts or holes	L	M	H
Management Altered Drainage (wetter soil surface and decreasing wetness with depth)	Late wet season; beginning of growing season	Excessive wet spots in field, ponding, root disease	Some wet spots in field and profile; some root disease	Water is evenly drained through field and soil profile; no evidence of root disease	L	M	H

continued on next ➔

GLOSSARY of Terms



acid soil, alkaline soil, neutral soil	Acidity and alkalinity describe one aspect of the soil's chemical reaction. A pH of 7 means that the soil is neutral, neither acid nor alkaline. A pH below 7 indicates acidity, and above 7 indicates alkalinity. Many plants will grow well over a range of pH from slightly acid to slightly alkaline, but some are more particular.
aeration	The process of loosening or puncturing the soil by mechanical means in order to increase water and air permeability.
aggregation	How sand, silt and clay come together to form larger granules. Good aggregation is apparent in a crumbly soil with water-stable granules that do not disintegrate easily. Well-aggregated soil has greater water entry at the surface, better aeration, and more water-holding capacity than poorly aggregated soil.
annual	A plant that completes its life cycle in one growing season or a single year. The seed germinates and the plant grows, blooms, fruits/sets seed and dies all in one growing season. The phrase "grow as an annual" or "treat as an annual" refers to technically perennial plants that are most attractive only during their first year and, hence, are better grown as new plants each year.
aquifer	A sand, gravel or rock formation capable of storing or conveying water; an underground geological formation or group of formations containing usable amounts of groundwater that can supply wells or springs.
available nutrients	Minerals or chemicals in forms that plants can absorb and utilize for growth.
berm	A mound or bank of earth.
biennial	A plant that completes its life cycle in two years. Typically, plants grow vegetatively during the first year, then fruit and die the second year.
border	A soil berm 15 to 18 inches tall created by tillage to keep flood irrigation water inside a portion of the pasture.
broadcast seeding	The application of seed by hand or with the aid of a seed spreader.
buffer strip	Narrow area of permanent vegetation often planted at the edge of a field, typically to slow the flow of water, slow the velocity of the wind, or to filter sediment and chemicals from runoff.
buffer zone	A neutral area that acts as a protective barrier separating two conflicting forces; an area that acts to minimize the impact of pollutants on the environment or public. For example, a stream buffer is an area of trees, shrubs and/or grasses protecting a water body from erosion and filtering runoff from nearby farm fields or urban areas.
capability class	A classification system that shows, in a general way, the suitability of soils for most kinds of field crops.
claypan	A hard, compact layer in the subsoil consisting mainly of clay; separated from overlying materials by a sharply defined boundary in the soil profile. Claypans usually impede the movement of water, air and plant roots.

RESOURCES

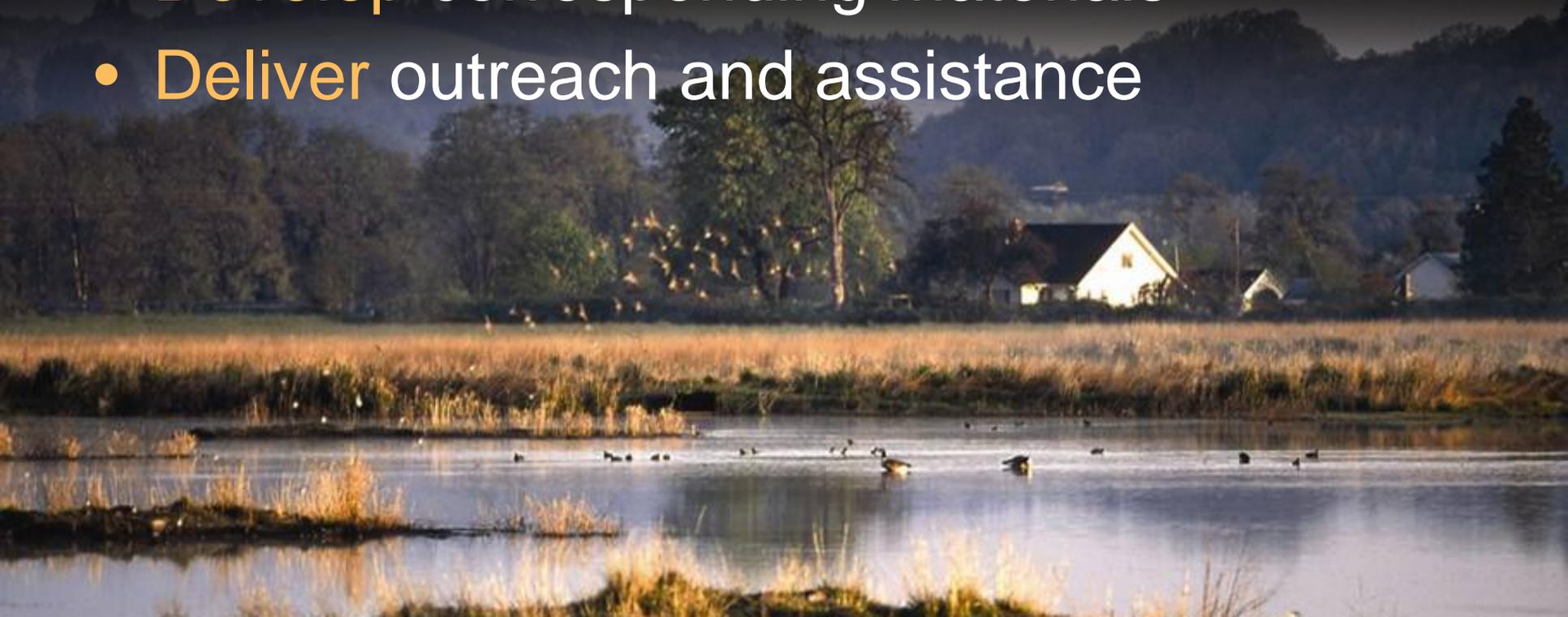
Contacts & Acronyms



Conservation District	Soil and Water Conservation District	www.oacd.org
DEQ	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality	www.oregon.gov/DEQ
Extension	Oregon State University Extension Service	http://extension.oregonstate.edu/
FSA	Farm Service Agency	www.fsa.usda.gov
NRCS	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	www.or.nrcs.usda.gov
OACD	Oregon Association of Conservation Districts	www.oacd.org
ODA	Oregon Department of Agriculture	http://oregon.gov/ODA
ODF	Oregon Department of Forestry	www.oregon.gov/ODF
ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife	www.oregon.gov/ODFW
OSU Extension	Oregon State University Extension Service	http://extension.oregonstate.edu/
OWEB	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board	www.oregon.gov/OWEB
OWRD	Oregon Water Resources Department	www.oregon.gov/OWRD
RC&D Council	Resource Conservation and Development Councils	www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/rcd
RD	USDA Rural Development	www.rurdex.usda.gov
SWCD	Soil and Water Conservation District	www.oacd.org
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture	www.usda.gov
USGS	United States Geological Survey	www.usgs.gov

The Next STEPS

- **Revise** existing material
- **Expand** to include additional information
- **Develop** corresponding materials
- **Deliver** outreach and assistance



Should your organization be a part of the STEPS effort by...

Including program or technical information from your organization?

Participating in the current review?

Participating in a steering committee?

Assisting with outreach, education and distribution?



Contact

NRCS Public Affairs, Portland:

- **Jill Rees**, (503) 414-3273
- **Sara Magenheimer**, (503) 414-3250

