

Jan 24, 2018, 9-11 AM Klamath County NRCS LWG meeting notes below. Attendees, feel free to comment to make sure I captured the highlights and is correct, this is to be posted on our NRCS web site:

Agency/Organization represented at meeting include Trout Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, Oregon Department of Forestry, Klamath Soil and Water Conservation District, Natural resources Conservation Service, Klamath Watershed Partnership and Fish and Wildlife Service.

Introductions occurred, followed by NRCS slide presentation of ongoing conservation programs and projects.

Discussion followed with participants to expand discussion on existing NRCS programs and projects, which generated further discussion around increasing conservation partnership for specific projects in the near future. One proposals would be to develop a priority list of projects in select areas that would include specific WRP easements and adjacent land owners, developing specific practices and projects to meet specific resource objectives. Upon prioritization of projects, conservation partners could move together with planning and securing funding to increase the chance of success.

The Sycan Marsh activity was discussed as an example of TNC, ODF and NRCS working together to address WRP and TNC concerns on forested and wetland areas. Long term management through prescribed fire and grazing are management tools that are being planned or already underway. Other planning projects discussed include Lost River National Water Quality Initiative and the Chiloquin Forest and Fire project. The Wood River Valley and a location the Sprague River watershed could be some specific projects in the near future that brings together a strong conservation partnership.

Water quality, water conservation and watershed health were discussed and still a high priority for Klamath County. Achieving one or more of these priorities could include forest and juniper projects, WRP involvement, range management practices and in-stream activities. Weed control and future weed management was also discussed and could be included in projects to address current and future weed issues within and adjacent proposed projects. T&E species management may need to be incorporated into projects, such as with the Oregon Spotted Frog in the Wood River Valley.

Overall, there was consensus from the attendees that there should be a couple of meetings to further discuss projects adjacent and within WRP easements in the Wood River Valley. Follow up with conservation partners will also occur to discuss ongoing project planning in the Chiloquin, Lost River and Sprague River areas.

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