

Deschutes LWGM

February 27, 2019

Redmond, Oregon

Eric Moeggenberg

Attendees: Todd Peplin, Stephanie Russo, Kacie Kiepke.

Eric: Current NRCS Programs & Updates

Stephanie: Sign-ups over. Current work includes 16 IWMs, 2 planned high tunnel projects and 1 active CSP contract as well as 2 separate EQIP contracts. Working on wildfire project with NFS and ODF for next year's CIS. TSID irrigation project update: Project has been commenced and completion projected for spring 2019. Upon project completion, NRCS anticipates numerous landowners seeking assistance and enrollment in conservation programs.

Tumalo PL566 project: Estimated completion date April 2019.

Todd: G4 & Tower Project Update. DSWC District completed negotiations and discussions. Held meeting with COID and landowners resulting in increased business and numerous interested landowners.

Tower Ditch project update. Current irrigation system includes wheel lines and pop-up sprinklers. OWRD grant submitted. Next meeting scheduled March 26, 2019 to include district, NRCS engineers and COID.

Eric: Historic Concerns

Group: Fuel lines/Fire breaks, Soil health, Water quality, Manure/Pasture compost.

Eric: Fuel line/Fire breaks

Stephanie: Numerous participants/landowners recognized for completing fire breaks without assistance. Suggested adding fire breaks to CIS. Has been in contact with ODF to discuss the fuel line/fire break resource concern throughout Deschutes county.

Eric: Soil Health

Stephanie: In communication with Claire who has been working with small farms throughout Deschutes county to improve soil health. Claire has recently been approved to work with larger farms. Proposed breaking the nematode cycle and long-term solution for water capacity and water quality.

Eric: Water quality/Pasture compost

Todd: Water enhancement must be monitored, and the data needs to be captured to assess progress.

Stephanie: Working with SWCD to improve current monitoring process. Proposed more site visits throughout duration of contract, where data progress can be documented more thoroughly.

Group proposed solutions:

Expand Indian Ford project with a focus on manure/pasture compost and irrigation water improvement.

Add telemetry to CIS which would also save overall water use.

Irrigation pipe system which addresses both resource concerns.

Create IWM CIS where DSWCD and NRCS may collaborate to improve resource concerns throughout Deschutes county.

Eric: Thank you