



Upper Willamette

Resource Conservation & Development Project Newsletter



OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE

RC & D PROJECT OFFICE — 1307 LINCOLN ST., EUGENE, OR 97401 — PHONE 344-1623
NEWSLETTER - Volume VI, No. 2 - July 1974

It is with deep regret that we inform you of the death of Henry C. Grabenhorst, Project Coordinator, on June 2, 1974. Hank was born on July 20, 1922 at Salem, Oregon. He spent most of his life involved with agriculture, having been raised on a farm near Salem, and beginning his career with the Soil Conservation Service in March 1951 at Moro, Oregon.

A graduate of Oregon State University from the School of Agriculture, he was also assigned to Fossil, Medford and Pendleton. He became Project Coordinator of the Upper Willamette RC&D Project on January 8, 1973. Hank's only time away from agriculture was a five-month period with the U. S. Corps of Engineers in Canada and Alaska, and over three years with the Naval Air Force during WW II.

Francis H. Latham, Project Engineer, has been appointed Acting Project Coordinator until a replacement is chosen for the position.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Upper Willamette RC&D Project President W. G. (Buck) Nash points out that a chief purpose of the RC&D is to enhance the quality of life in the project area. This is done with the help of the local people and the cooperation of various agencies. New ideas, as well as identification of problems that may lead to helpful projects, are basic to having a successful RC&D program.

"The Resource Committees are the strength and backbone of our project. Through these committees we find out what local people need and want," Buck said. "Right now we have three vacancies on the six committees. We need a chairman for Community Planning & Development, and executive secretaries to help the Recreation and Wildlife groups."

RC&D business items at the quarterly meeting on May 23rd included a change in the Constitution and Bylaws. With the elimination of the Area Beautification Committee, the standing committees are: Agriculture, Community Planning & Development, Recreation, Water Development, Wildlife and Woodland.

HORSE LOGGING

Doug Cruickshank, Utilization & Marketing forester assigned by Oregon Dept. of Forestry to assist the Project, has completed a booklet listing Horse Loggers in Oregon.

The booklet was a goal of the Woodland Committee in its continuing effort to assist small woodland owners in forest management. The report is available from the Upper Willamette RC&D office, 1307 Lincoln, Eugene 97401.

RC&D PROJECTS

Upper Willamette RC&D projects were recently reviewed in each of the four counties with USDA agencies and county planners participating.



Shown here at the Linn County meeting are left to right, Jack Wood, Extension Agent; Bernard Gilkison, Linn County Planning Director; Chick Latham, RC&D Acting Coordinator; Jeane Hutcheson, RC&D secretary; Ralph Black, Linn ASCS; and Frank Gurgurich, Linn Dist. Conservationist with SCS.

IN BRIEF

Progress on RC&D funded projects include the following activities:

Lane County

The Invitation for Bids on the Richardson Butte Irrigation Project have been mailed and bid opening will be held at the RC&D office on July 30, 1974 at 1:00 p.m.

The environmental assessment study is scheduled for the second week in September on the Marcola flood prevention measure.

The Heceta Steering Committee has asked the RC&D Sponsors to reactivate this measure. The RC&D Executive Board will evaluate the proposal and recommend a course of action to the Sponsors.

Linn County

Blickle Co. started construction on June 25 on Periwinkle Phase I, a flood prevention and recreation project at Albany.

Please note on page 3 the work being done on Periwinkle Phase II, flood prevention project in the area beyond the Albany city limits.

A public hearing has been scheduled for July 19 in the city hall at Harrisburg on the Rowland Creek flood measure.

Lincoln County

South Beach Marina--A tour for Washington, D. C. and Portland Soil Conservation Service personnel is scheduled for July 10-11. The joint Corps of Engineers--SCS environmental assessment should be completed by mid-July.

NEW FACES

Jim Fuller from Boonesville, Indiana will replace Gene Sturtevant at the SCS office in Corvallis. Gene is moving to Hillsboro.

Jim Lockard is newly assigned to the Eugene field office, moving from Junction City. Indications are that there will be one SCS office for Lane County located in Eugene.

Paul Calverly, Area Conservationist at Grants Pass, will have the same position at Albany, and Bill Cox is transferring to the Bend Area office. SCS service areas IV and V are being combined as IV, extending from Albany to the Oregon-California border and west of the Cascade Range.

Steve Woodard, Industrial Forestry Assn., Eugene, will become Lane Extension Agent in woodland management, replacing Bert Hockett, who is now with Georgia-Pacific.

WILLAMETTE NATIONAL FOREST

John E. Alcock will succeed Zane G. Smith as supervisor of the Willamette National Forest in August. Mr. Smith has been appointed Director of Recreation in the Washington, D. C. headquarters of the U. S. Forest Service.

Since 1970 Mr. Alcock has been supervisor of the Daniel Boone National Forest in Kentucky, and prior to that he supervised the Green Mountain National Forest in Vermont for three years. He has been a District Ranger in Indiana, a staff officer for the National Forest in Wisconsin and director of the Civilian Conservation Center in Vermont.

Mr. Alcock received a degree in forestry from Michigan State University in 1961. He is 38 years old, married with two daughters, age 13 and 9.

PERIWINKLE PHASE II

At a May meeting of the Grand Prairie Water Control District Board of Directors and Periwinkle landowners, a review of the sub-district project proposal was presented by Keith Busch, SCS engineer.

The major flood drainageway improvement of the Periwinkle channel is now in process within the city limits of Albany. The second part of the project will improve farm lands and rural residential development east of Albany and the I-5 freeway.

Project costs for Phase II, extending from the Albany city limits upstream, will be greatly reduced if the landowners all agree to give the necessary easements for the right-of-way. Federal funds, through the Upper Willamette RC&D Project, will cover about 60% of the construction costs.

Local OSU Extension and Soil Conservation Service personnel have assisted in preparing a petition to establish the intent of the landowners. Once easements are completed, the SCS is authorized to proceed with design details. All stages of the project must have the support and official approval of the Grand Prairie Water Control District landowners.



Periwinkle Creek landowners Earl Miller and Douglas Ritchie, both of Albany, are shown signing a petition to the Grand Prairie Water Control District Board declaring the abutting landowners' intention to give, free of charge, the necessary right-of-way for construction and maintenance on the improvement of the Periwinkle Creek channel.

WILLAMETTE GREENWAY PLAN

The plan ordered by the 1973 Greenway legislation has provision for considerable citizen involvement, and has already increased awareness of the multiple-use aspects of the river.

Important public meetings in July include: July 23rd, Council Chambers, City Hall, Eugene; July 24th, Courthouse Annex, Albany; July 25th, Conf. Rm., State Hwy. Bldg., Salem. According to Director George Churchill, through these meetings the preliminary plan will be molded and shaped in the most desirable form according to and within the framework of the Greenway Law.

Citizen conferences to review the preliminary plan will be held Wednesday, Sept. 4 in Eugene; Sept. 5, Corvallis; Sept. 10, Salem; and Sept. 11, Portland.

Current information on Greenway happenings is available through "Greenwaves," a newsletter edited by George Churchill at the Willamette River Greenway office, 316 State Highway Building, Salem 97310.

FLOOD INSURANCE--IT'S PROGRESSING!

Twenty-two counties and 36 cities of Oregon are now eligible for National Flood Insurance, after completing applications through the office of Robert Evans, Oregon State Water Resources Board, Salem.

According to Evans, incorporated cities can become eligible by completing quite simple application forms available through his office. The cities must also have an ordinance establishing a building code and building permit system.

If special ordinances cover restrictions for building in the flood plain, such ordinances are to be listed in the application. Base maps of the city and flood plain are requested but not mandatory. Many cities have already received copies of maps from the Housing and Urban Development's federal insurance administration to aid in identifying flood hazard areas and copies of these can be submitted with the application.

Rural residents living outside of incorporated cities in Benton, Lane, Lincoln and Linn Counties are already qualified to buy flood or mudslide insurance since these counties have had their applications approved.

If you feel you need this extra insurance for your home, duplex, 4-plex or small business, you should get in touch with your insurance agent.

There is an urgency, too. A deadline of January 1, 1975 has been set requiring that any government supported loans for remodeling or building in hazardous areas will require such insurance.

WILLAMETTE CANOEING

Interest is generating in "float trips" on the Willamette.

The State Parks & Recreation Section of the Highway Division has published the "Willamette River Recreation Guide" showing parks and other public use areas from the river mouth to Dexter Reservoir on the main channel, and Cottage Grove on the coast fork. A revision is almost completed which will mark overnight camp areas. Reservations will be made through the State Parks & Recreation Section by individuals or groups planning float trips on the Willamette.

Canoeing trips on the Willamette are available through private operators providing rental service and land transportation to and from the points of entrance and exit.

There is, indeed, an element of danger, however. First-timers should go with an experienced guide. People should also realize that land along the river is essentially private and merits the respect of boaters.

According to Mel Jackson, Eugene Parks & Recreation Department, the river can be an enjoyable and exciting experience but recreationists should be aware of the dangers. These can include being stuck on a rock for several hours, equipment loss and drowning (snags, rocks, rapids, etc.). The power of the Willamette River and coldness of the water are factors seldom taken into consideration by the recreationist unfamiliar with the river.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The Lebanon flood plain information study report has been completed and furnished to county governmental officials. Similar reports for the Sweet Home and Brownsville areas are nearing completion.

Bids have been let for clearing of vegetation of bank protection works in the Willamette Valley. The clearing done to maintain access for repairs and to reduce snagging damage during high water periods, is to be completed in two months. The work, at a total of 22 sites along the Willamette, Molalla, Santiam, South Santiam, Calapooia and McKenzie rivers, includes removal of trees and large brush from the revetments.

Rock groins and timber pile dikes are under construction along the Siuslaw River between river miles 1.5 and 4.0; these navigation improvements will be completed in July.

A second contract for recreation facilities at Krugur Park on Fern Ridge Lake has been awarded. Both contracts will be completed by the summer of 1975.

STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY



David Reed, former OSU assistant professor in recreation resource management, is shown with a Corvallis riverside park plan developed as a student project.

Reed served a short while as executive secretary of the Recreation Committee for RC&D. Before leaving recently for a new teaching position in Texas, he contributed a great deal to the planning efforts in Benton Co.

Dave thinks professors should look as "close to home" as possible for the class "laboratory" that helps the student relate project data and information to local needs and decision making.

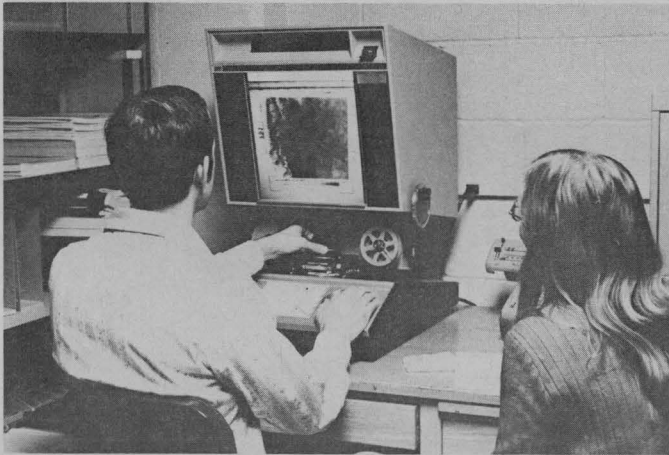
Opportune circumstances found Dave's students forming a "task force" to assist with the Benton County comprehensive plan. In

cooperation with planning staff, planning commission, agencies and citizen advisory committees, students put together several large map displays of land ownership, land use capabilities, land characteristics, recreational possibilities, and the comprehensive map which reflected these components. A narrated slide show was also done to emphasize environmental concerns and citizen involvement.

A proposed Benton County Park Plan was developed by Reed in cooperation with an advisory committee and county park board. Such plans may not be implemented in total but often add helpful base information and awareness of opportunities.

Dave also saw exciting possibilities for student projects in the fields of history, geology, forestry, anthropology, food and fiber production, the Willamette River resource and the quality-of-life attributes of Willamette Valley communities.

ERSAL



Barry Schrumpf, acting director of the Environmental Remote Sensing Applications Laboratory at Oregon State University, with assistant Debbie Curl, are shown viewing the microfilm from the Earth Resources Technological Satellite.

World-wide satellite imagery plus aerial photography from the 60,000 foot flights of National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) provide the laboratory with a potential of information not yet fully utilized.

According to Schrumpf, the laboratory (ERSAL) was established in April, 1972, with funding from the office of University Affairs and

NASA headquarters. The central purpose is to engage in projects that help apply this new technology to use of natural resources.

Examples of ERSAL projects include a rural recreational subdivision inventory and open space study in Central Oregon; an environmental impact analysis for relocation of the Harrisburg bridge; land use analysis for the Oregon Coastal Conservation and Development Commission; land resource inventory of Oregon; and a study of vacant land in metropolitan Portland.

RC&D and other organizations may also find ways to further utilize this source of imagery data.

SCENIC EASEMENT AND WILLAMETTE GREENWAY

Planning for long-term and multiple use of the Willamette River waterway is certain to gain the attention of most Oregonians. Those who use the river resources are concerned about gravel deposits, irrigation, fish spawning capabilities, channel navigation, boating, fishing and general recreation. Views of different people or groups are often diverse and dynamic. Abutting landowners may share the above needs plus such other immediate concerns as bank stabilization, public access, trespass or changed land-use regulations.

Scenic easements for abutting landowners to use in maximizing the controlled use and enjoyment of the river resources were pointed to in the 1973 Greenway law. It is a means of giving landowners assurance of river uses compatible with agriculture while also assuring the public and its agencies that the landowner will leave the Greenway as nearly in a natural state as possible. In the case of farm land, the law specifically provides that these scenic easements cannot be purchased through condemnation procedures. However, the right is given for public purchase of the Greenway land covered by an easement in case the adjoining farm land changes to another use.

Greenway easement forms are available through George Churchill, Willamette Greenway office, 316 State Highway Building, Salem, 97310, Phone: 378-6507. In addition to the form for the scenic easement by which the State Highway Division pays to restrict the landowner's use of the river, a second form is available for easements whereby the landowner is paid to allow use of the land for

whatever Greenway purpose or land treatment is agreed to. The forms provided are offered to assist with agreements, but may vary depending on individual needs.

LINCOLN WATER PLAN

Lincoln County recently adopted a water plan necessary to county or regional project development. Assisting with its adoption was the Lincoln County Resource Council established in 1971 with the help of the RC&D Project Coordinator and staff. This council provided structure whereby some 49 special service districts developed a unified overall regional plan dealing with water, sewage and solid waste disposal.

FLOOD PLAIN REPORT

A Flood Plain Reference Report for 13 miles of the Siuslaw River in Lane Co. was completed by the Soil Conservation Service in May.

Lane County had requested this information from the Siuslaw SWCD who asked the RC&D

Sponsors to obtain this assistance to facilitate setting floor elevations above the level of known, historical floods.

The studied area extends from 1.1 miles upstream from the Route F bridge in Mapleton, downstream along the Siuslaw River to the railroad bridge at Cushman.

* * * * *

* HAPPINESS IS VACATION TIME! *

* From July 18 until August 26 the RC&D *
* office will be on a vacation schedule. *

* There will be someone in the office to *
* answer the phone from 8 a.m. to 12 *
* noon Monday through Friday. However, *
* the office may be unattended in the *
* afternoon periodically because of field *
* work. *

* Also, messages may be left at the *
* Eugene SCS office - Phone: 687-6436. *

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This newsletter is a quarterly publication edited by the Community Development Specialist assigned to the Upper Willamette RC&D Project by Oregon State University Cooperative Extension Service. The Project is designed to accelerate resource development in the 4-county area of Lane, Lincoln, Linn and Benton Counties.

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