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H₂O NEWS

LINKING OREGON'S WATER RESEARCH AND EDUCATION



OWRRI Spring Events

Spring brings many rapid changes for the world, and OWRRI is no exception. The OWRRI calendar is very full over the next few weeks and shows no signs of slowing down.

On Monday, May 15 the Institute will sponsor a Water Resources Career Fair in Corvallis. OWRRI is currently looking for organizations to sponsor students to attend the event. The Career Fair will bring together industry, agency, consulting, and university representatives with high school and college students who would like to learn more about careers working with water and the environment. See page 4 for further details. *Making Waves*, a newsletter for students interested in water resources, will make its debut at the fair.

Cutting Edge, a publication for current research reports was released in January. It will allow researchers to increase their technical outreach efforts. The first issue is enclosed.

OWRRI will participate April 21 in the Earth Day Fair in Corvallis. Sponsored by the Associated Students of Oregon State University's Environmental Affairs Task Force, the fair will feature displays by OSU departments and environment related programs.

OWRRI's 1995 spring seminar, "Wilderness Lakes in Our National Parks - Are We Loving Them to Death?" began April 4 with a presentation by John Henneberger. Henneberger, who retired from the Parks Service after serving over

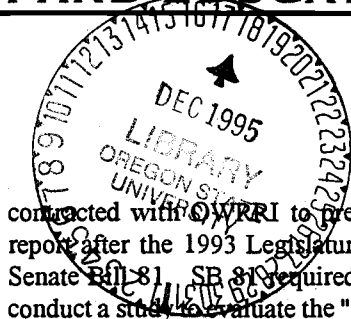
30 years, provided a historical overview of the parks and insight into the transformation of the concept of "park."

OWRRI is also co-sponsoring the 1995 Spring Soil Seminar Series, "Soil Hydrology: It's Role in War and Peace, Global Change, and Environmental Restoration." The series is hosted by John Selker, associate professor of Bioresource Engineering at Oregon State University and a member of the OWRRI Governing Board. For more information about the series please contact Selker at (503) 737-4021.

Loretta Brenner, Groundwater Community Involvement Program coordinator has been busy travelling around the state organizing groundwater events. See "Groundwater Connections," page 2, for highlights.

OWRRI and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality will co-sponsor the Second Biennial Nonpoint Source Monitoring Conference April 10-12 in Sublimity.

"Gravel Disturbance Impacts on Salmon Habitat and Stream Health, Volumes I and II," an OWRRI report prepared for the Oregon Division of State Lands (DSL) have been completed. The Division

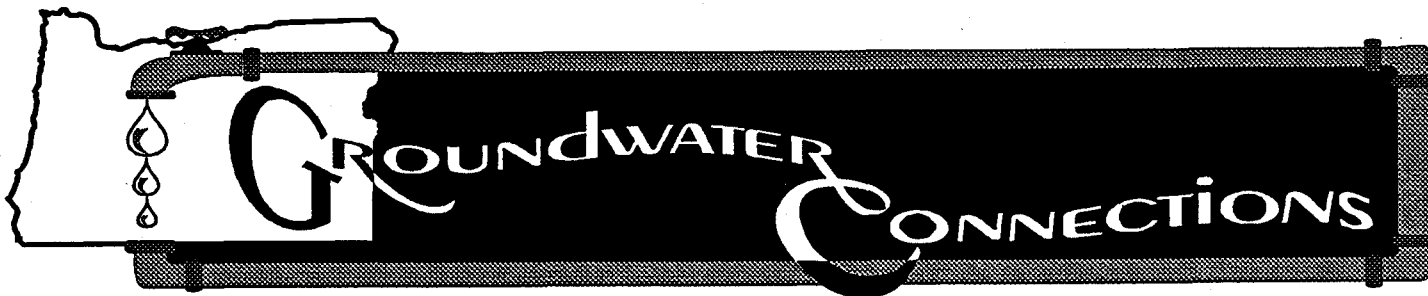


contacted with OWRRI to prepare the report after the 1993 Legislature passed Senate Bill 81. SB 81 required DSL to conduct a study to evaluate the "effects of gravel removal or stream health," to identify critical salmon habitat, and to adopt administrative rules that require a permit for all alteration activities in these areas.

Public hearings on the report will be held this month around the State. For more information about the locations and times of public hearings, or to receive a copy of the report, please contact John Lilly at the Oregon Division of State Lands, 775 NE Summer Street, Salem, OR 97310, (503) 378-3805 ext. 281.

The debate over funding for the Water Institutes program continues. The Water Institute Directors met March 27-28 in Washington, D.C. to discuss the issue and meet with members of Congress.

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Lane County:

A Groundwater Guardian

Lane County, Oregon, has been selected by the Groundwater Foundation as one of fifty International Groundwater Guardian Communities for 1995. The award, given to communities actively working on groundwater protection, gives Lane County Extension Agent Ross Penhallegon and the volunteers who work with Extension Service water projects well-deserved recognition. The Lane County group will showcase their work at the 1995 Groundwater Guardian Conference, November 19-21, in Chicago.

For more information about the Lane County Program which includes a Groundwater Monitoring Network Trend Study to monitor nitrate levels for a two-year period, and work with the City of Eugene to link volunteer nitrate testing data to the city's Geographic Information Services database contact Penhallegon, (503) 687-4243.

Groundwater Grant Funds Available

The Oregon 319 Grant Program is now accepting grant applications for 1996. Grant applications should address diffuse or non-point source pollution impacting groundwater quality. Agricultural best management practices, public education, community involvement, information management and assessment, and monitoring of land activities affecting groundwater are the major grant categories. All 319 grants require a 40% non-federal match as part of the budget. Deadline for submission of grant proposal is Tuesday, May 16, 1995. For more information and grant guidelines, contact Ivan Camacho, Dept. of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division, 811 SW 6th, Portland, OR 97204, or call: (503) 229-5088.

Groundwater Community Involvement... Alive and Well in Oregon!

The 1994 year was busy for the Community Involvement Program, and 1995 is shaping up to be even busier. Current projects include a forum on Groundwater Quality in Benton County, Nitrate testing programs in Tillamook and Clatsop Counties (sponsored by the Soil and Water Conservation District, and Seaside High School Coastal Studies and Technology Center). Teacher training with the groundwater model, a new groundwater program brochure, and a publication: "Organizing a Free Nitrate Testing Event in Your Community" are also in the works. Upcoming projects include the development of a database for volunteer nitrate

monitoring programs and a Groundwater Communications Network.

If you want information about any of these activities, or about organizing a groundwater program in your community, contact:

Loretta Brenner, Coordinator,
Groundwater Community Involvement
Program, OWRI
Oregon State University
210 Strand AG Hall
Corvallis, OR 97331-2208
(503) 737-5736
e-mail: brennerl@css.orst.edu

Groundwater Festivals Making Waves in Oregon...

Oregon's second Children's Groundwater Festival will be held Friday, April 14, at Western Oregon State College in Monmouth. This year's theme is "Dive Into the World of Water," and will feature dozens of exhibits, demonstrations, and projects on groundwater and surface water resources. Over 1,000 fifth, sixth, and seventh grade students and teachers from around Oregon will attend the free event.

The extremely popular festival has been funded by 319 Grants from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the last two years. Next year's festival is looking for a new home and new funding base. "This is an excellent opportunity for agencies, educational institutions, and corporations to work together to bring the Groundwater Festival to students in 1996," comments Julie Magers, Festival Coordinator, Oregon DEQ, "the response from all the participants has been nothing but positive."

If you would like more information about the festival, or are interested in sponsorship, please contact: Julie Magers, OR DEQ, Groundwater Section, (503) 229-6065.

Coburg Elementary School hosted a "Mini-Groundwater Festival" on Friday, March 31st. Organized by the City of Coburg Public Works Department, and Lane Council of Governments, the festival featured interactive displays on groundwater movement and pollution, nitrate testing, preventing groundwater contamination, and water treatment.

Guests from Oregon Health Division, OR DEQ, Oregon Association of Water Utilities, and the Groundwater Community Involvement Program presented the topics. Over 100 students participated in the half-day event. Coburg is working on a well-head protection project to address concerns about nitrate contamination, old septic systems, and land-use activities that contribute to groundwater pollution.

For more information contact: Jack Harris, City of Coburg, (503) 485-4358; Kathy Wiederhold, Lane COG, (503) 687-4430; or the Community Involvement Program, (503) 737-5736.

*National Drinking Water
Week is May 7-13*

UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

APRIL

- ◆ April - May: "Soil Hydrology: It's Role in War and Peace, Global Change, and Environmental Restoration"

1995 Spring Soil Science Seminar Series. Oregon State University. Contact: John Selker, Bioresource Engineering, (503) 737-4021. Corvallis, OR.

- ◆ April - June: "Wilderness Lakes in Our National Parks - Are We Loving Them to Death?"

OWRRI Spring Seminar Series. Oregon State University. Contact: OWRRI, (503) 737-4022. Corvallis, OR.

- ◆ April 10-12: Second Biennial Nonpoint Source Monitoring Conference

OWRRI and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality sponsoring. Silver Falls Conference Center. Contact: Jo Beth Mullens, OWRRI, (503) 737-4026. Sublimity, OR.

- ◆ April 19: "What's Up With Groundwater in Benton County?"

Public Forum on Groundwater Quality. LaSells Stewart Center, Oregon State University. Contact: Loretta Brenner, Groundwater Community Involvement Program, (503) 737-5736. Corvallis, OR.

- ◆ April 20: 56th Annual Biology Colloquium: "Ethical Challenges in Science"

Program for Ethics, Science and the Environment sponsoring. LaSells Stewart Center, Oregon State University. Contact: (503) 737-6196. Corvallis, OR.

- ◆ April 21: Earth Day Fair

Oregon State University. Contact: Tamsin Morris, ASOSU Environmental Affairs Task Force Director, (503) 737-6356. Corvallis, OR.

- ◆ April 23-26: American Water Resources Association's Annual Spring Symposium - Water Conservation in the 21st Century: "Conservation, Demand & Supply"

Contact: J. Paul Riley, Professor Emeritus, Utah State University. (801) 797-2783. Salt Lake City, UT.

- ◆ April 24-26: Creating & Using Wetlands for Wastewater Disposal and Water Quality

Short Course. Contact: Wisconsin Engineering Registration, 1-800-462-0876. Madison, WI.

MAY

- ◆ May 14-18: American Institute of Hydrology's 1995 Annual Meeting: "Water Resources at Risk"

Symposium held in conjunction with the International Mine Water Association. Contact: Helen Klose, (612) 379-1030. FAX (621) 379-0169. Denver, CO.

- ◆ May 15: Water Resources Career Fair

Sponsored by OWRRI. industry, agency, consulting, and research representatives will display. LaSells Stewart Center, Oregon State University. Contact: OWRRI (503) 737-4022. Corvallis, OR.

- ◆ May 19-20: Northwest Water Law and Policy: "Water Policy and Sustainability in the Columbia River Basin"

Northwestern School of Law, Lewis and Clark College sponsoring. Contact: NW School of Law CLE, (503) 768-6671. Portland, OR.

- ◆ May 21-24: The National Watershed Coalition's Fourth National Watershed Conference

Contact: (303) 988-1810. Charleston, WV.

JUNE

- ◆ June 25-28: Water Resources and Environmental Hazards: "Emphasis on Hydrologic and Cultural Insight in the Pacific Rim"

The American Water Resources Association Annual Symposium. Contact: Ivan Johnson (303) 425-5610. Honolulu, HI.

JULY

- ◆ July 14-16: da Vinci Days: "The Nature of Water"

A Celebration of Arts, Science & Technology. Contact: (503) 757-6363. Corvallis, OR.

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OWRRI WATER RESOURCES CAREER FAIR

May 15, 1995
LaSells Stewart Center
Oregon State University
Corvallis, Oregon

Registration:

The event is free, but please contact the Institute for groups of five or more.

Displays and Sponsorships:

Open to industry representatives, agencies, consulting firms and Oregon universities. Please contact OWRRI for information.

For More Information Contact:

OWRRI
210 Strand Agriculture Hall
Corvallis, Oregon 97331-2208
Phone (503) 737-4022
FAX (503) 737-2735

OWRRI is sponsoring the Water Resources Career Fair Monday, May 15, for high school and college students interested in exploring careers related to water and the environment.

Career Fair Schedule:

1:00 p.m. Career Fair Displays

An opportunity to examine career and academic opportunities, plus a chance to talk one-on-one with representatives from various state, federal, and local agencies; schools; industry personnel; and private consulting firms.

3:00 p.m. Water Research Presentations

Come listen to past and present OWRRI researchers talk about water research being done at Oregon's universities.

4:30 p.m. Student Poster Competition and Reception

An open poster competition for high school and college students to showcase their technical and community water-related research programs and projects. Cash awards will be given to the top high school and college posters in each category.

H₂O NEWS

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For additional copies or for further information regarding the Oregon Water Resources Research Institute program, please call or write:

OWRRI
210 Strand Agriculture Hall
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331-2208
Phone: (503) 737-4022
FAX: (503) 737-2735

OWRRI Director:

Kenneth Williamson

Information Transfer Specialist:

Patricia Easley

Groundwater Community Involvement

Specialist: Loretta Brenner

H₂O Editor/Office Manager:

Kelly Bartron

H₂O Writer/Assistant Editor:

Beth Putnam