PROGRAM OF ACTION

UPPER WILLAMETTE Resource Conservation & Development Area

1980
## PROGRAM OF ACTION

### 1980

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RC&amp;D AREA MAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOREWORD</td>
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<tr>
<td>ORGANIZATION CHART</td>
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### Page

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organization &amp; Operation Summary</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency Assistance</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC&amp;D Area Plan, RC&amp;D Projects</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Term Plan</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESOURCE COMMITTEES:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agriculture &amp; Water</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Planning &amp; Development</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fish &amp; Wildlife</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodland</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Board</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>RC&amp;D Council</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resource Committee Chairmen</td>
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<td>Specialists</td>
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The Upper Willamette Resource Conservation & Development Area was one of the first ten in the Nation. In 1964, the local sponsors with assistance from federal, state and local agencies, groups and individuals prepared an evaluation of problems and needs. The Secretary of Agriculture approved the RC&D Area Plan in March 1964, and for the last 14 years the RC&D Area Sponsors have been coordinating natural resource development.

Objectives are broad and varied. To make the area a better place in which to live, work and play, the major goals are to:

1. Reduce damages from annual flooding by development of water disposal systems and land use zoning of the flood plain.

2. Intensify the cropping systems on agricultural lands through higher levels of management and use of high value crops following an intensive program of flood prevention, drainage, irrigation, market analysis and research; divert marginal croplands to more suitable uses.

3. Develop the forest resources to a sustained yield basis on commercial woodlands in federal, state and private ownership by improved timber management, development of new wood products, improved processing facilities and expanding market outlets to provide labor opportunities and to further stabilize the economy.

4. Increase the quantity and improve the quality of recreational facilities to meet local and tourists' demands through coordination and development of private and public facilities.

5. Provide local governments with basic resource data and methods of utilizing such information in relation to Comprehensive Land Use Planning and development.

6. Enhance and protect the visual qualities of the physical environment.

7. Improve the economic opportunities of the area by developing new job opportunities and increasing income from farms, timber, recreation and industry.

To attain these goals the Sponsors have obtained the help of many local leaders and are also assisted by employees of federal, state and county agencies.

The RC&D Area has been amended three times to encompass more area with similar problems and to coincide with Administrative Districts 4 and 5 established for the State of Oregon—the counties of Benton, Lane, Lincoln and Linn.
UPPER WILLAMETTE RC&D AREA

ORGANIZATION & OPERATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
President Secretary
Vice Pres. Treasurer
3 members at large
(RC&D Coordinator ex officio)

RC&D AREA SPONSORS
Soil & Water Conservation Districts
Benton Lincoln Linn
North Lane Siuslaw Upper Willamette

County Governments
Benton Lincoln Lane Linn
Port of Newport Port of Siuslaw

RESOURCE COMMITTEES
Agriculture & Water Community Planning & Development
Fish & Wildlife Recreation Woodland

ORIGIN OF PROJECTS
RC&D Area Plan
Area Plan Amendments
RC&D Area Sponsors
Resource Committees
Agencies
Local Interest Groups
Individuals

AGENCIES
1. RC&D Staff
2. Cooperating Agencies
3. Councils of Government
Coordination, technical assistance, cost-sharing, grants, loans
ORGANIZATION & OPERATION SUMMARY

RC&D AREA SPONSORS
The RC&D Area Sponsors are the following Soil and Water Conservation Districts*: Benton, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, North Lane, Siuslaw and Upper Willamette; the county governments of Benton, Lane, Lincoln and Linn; the Port of Newport; and the Port of Siuslaw.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
The Executive Committee consists of the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and three members at large. The group meets with the RC&D coordinator, RC&D engineer, community development agent, utilization & marketing forester and others as the need arises in the period between the quarterly meetings to give guidance, direction and coordination in the development of the RC&D Area Plan and goals. 1/

RESOURCE COMMITTEES
There are five Resource Committees--Agriculture & Water, Community Planning & Development, Fish & Wildlife, Recreation and Woodland. The Chairman of each committee is appointed by the RC&D president and assisted by an executive secretary assigned to aid in the work. Representatives from each of the Sponsors are assigned to each of the committees and technical assistance is provided by representatives of various agencies appointed to the committees. The committees may also include as many interested community leaders as the members feel are needed to adequately fulfill the goals. The Resource Committees establish Long Range Goals and plan Annual Objectives; these include priorities, possible ways of attaining goals, and determining the agency or local people who will do the work.

RC&D COORDINATOR
The RC&D Coordinator is a staff officer assigned by the Soil Conservation Service to work full time with the RC&D Area Sponsors and the cooperating local, state and federal agencies in carrying out the authorized Area Plan. The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture has designated the Soil Conservation Service to administer the federal part of the program.

AGENCIES
Approximately 40 federal, state, county and local agencies have designated representatives to assist in the coordination, technical assistance, cost sharing, grants and loans necessary for the completion of RC&D projects.

COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENT
The established Councils of Government in the area are Oregon District 4 COG (Benton, Lincoln, Linn counties) and the Lane COG. A primary role is to review requests for federal assistance to determine if they are consistent with regional plans.

1/ The Constitution & Bylaws in the 1974 Program of Action have been revised. *Soil & Water Conservation Districts are legal subdivisions of state government organized by local landowners to promote conservation and natural resource development. The State Soil & Water Conservation Commission is appointed by the Governor and supervises the organization and operation of the SWCD's throughout the state.
AGENCY ASSISTANCE

The Upper Willamette RC&D Area is assisted by representatives from:

**U. S. Department of Agriculture**
- Agricultural Stabilization & Rural Electrification Admin.
  Conservation Service
- Economic Research & Statistics State & Private Forestry
  Service
- Farm & Rural Development Admin. Siuslaw National Forest
- Food & Agriculture Science and Willamette National Forest
  Education Administration Soil Conservation Service

**U. S. Department of the Army**
- Corps of Engineers

**U. S. Department of Commerce**
- Economic Development Administration
- National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- National Weather Service

**U. S. Department of Housing & Urban Development**

**U. S. Department of the Interior**
- Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Environmental Protection Agency
  Wildlife
- Bureau of Land Management Geological Survey
- Bureau of Reclamation Heritage Conservation &
  Recreation Service

**Small Business Administration**

**STATE OF OREGON**

Department of:
- Agriculture Transportation
- Economic Development Highway Division
- Energy Parks & Recreation
- Environmental Quality Willamette River Greenway
- Fish & Wildlife Water Resources
- Forestry Willamette Basin Project Committee
- Land Conservation & Development Executive Department
- Intergovernmental Relations Div.

Office of the Governor
- Lane Council of Governments

Oregon State University Lane Council of Governments
- University of Oregon Oregon Dist. 4 Council of Govts.

Many county departments in Benton, Lane, Lincoln and Linn counties, as well as city planning commissions, city councils, etc.
The Upper Willamette RC&D Area Plan is the comprehensive proposal developed by the RC&D sponsors for accelerating conservation, development, improvement and utilization of the resources of the RC&D Area.

RC&D projects are specific actions needed and proposed by local interest groups or individuals for the systematic development and use of soil, water, plant, recreational and human resources to bring about improved economic and social conditions for the area. RC&D financial and technical assistance may be provided to sponsors in carrying out eligible RC&D projects having community benefits, such as

1. Critical area treatment (erosion and sediment control);
   b. Land stabilization;
3. Public water-based recreation developments;
4. Public water-based fish and wildlife developments;
5. Farm irrigation;
6. Land drainage;
7. Soil and water management for agricultural-related pollutant control, and
8. Accelerated services.

Assistance may also include present on-going local, state and federal programs related to resource conservation and development.

RC&D projects, suggested or specifically listed in the RC&D Area Plan and its amendments, may be brought to the RC&D sponsors by local interest groups or individuals. Other projects may be initiated by the RC&D sponsors, resource committees, agencies, Councils of Government, local groups and individuals. Approval for these proposals is given by the RC&D sponsors at their regular quarterly meetings.

Annually, long range goals are evaluated by the five resource committees --Agriculture & Water, Community Planning & Development, Fish & Wildlife, Recreation and Woodland. They meet separately to determine the goals and priorities in their specific field of interest, and these annual objectives are listed in the yearly "Program of Action."
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*The table represents the projects and their associated assistance as per the Upper Willamette RC&D Area's short term plan. The 'x' indicates the level of assistance provided.*
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GOALS (Long Range)

1. Develop programs designed to improve the watershed conditions and provide clean water for beneficial uses.

2. Plan towards intensification of agricultural land use through improvements in irrigation, water storage, drainage and flood prevention.

3. Support zoning of agricultural land to protect the scale and efficiency of food and fibre production.

4. Seek new crops and market outlets to make more profitable use of our improved land resources.

5. Continue support of field studies using industrial waste water for irrigation, and trials of alternate crops.

6. Promote farm practices that minimize air and water pollution.

7. Encourage management of estuary tideland food resources and aquaculture.

ANNUAL PROGRAM

1. Give top priority to the development of a comprehensive water management plan for the Upper Willamette Basin - such plan to provide for the following concerns in relation to water:

   a. Water uses and priorities:
      Agricultural Navigation
      Domestic Fish & Wildlife Habitat
      Industrial Hydroelectric Power
      Recreation

   b. Water Quality: Pollution abatement, Drainage systems

   c. Water Control (quantity): Reservoirs and flow control
      Riverbed management
      Gravel as a renewable resource

   d. Floodplain woodland management.
Implementation: a. Be on the alert for funding programs which will facilitate achievement under this goal.

b. Continue to work on the development of a master water plan for Linn County and northern Lane County.

c. Explore the use of Title IX and Title II EDA funds.

d. Continue to support the pilot program of river management which is being carried out on the Santiam River under sponsorship of the Santiam Water Control Districts and the coordinated action of landowners, fifteen agencies of government and other uses of the resource.

e. Hold a meeting of Water Control Districts, agencies and others to assist in implementing the study plan.

2. Support preservation of good agricultural lands through comprehensive planning and improvement of such land through water management, irrigation, drainage or flood control practices.

Implementation: a. Request OSU Extension Service to include in their tile drainage research investigations a study of the effects of subsoiling in connection with tiling as compared to tiling without subsoiling.

b. Work toward improved drainage outlets which will permit installation of underground drainage systems.

c. Continue to work for clarification of stipulations invoked in the purchase of Greenway properties with BOR funds. Recommend against such sales if the change of land use is from agricultural to more intensive land use.

d. Encourage the development of a method of land classification that will better define the total agricultural land goal needs under the Land Conservation & Development Commission program.

3. Encourage continued study of the application of digested sewage effluent and industrial wastes on agricultural lands. This should include protection of the land from buildup of pollutants along with satisfactory rates and methods of application.

Implementation: a. In the RC&D Newsletter, report on progress being made in the use of digested sewage effluent and industrial wastes on agricultural lands.
b. Assist communities which are updating sewage plants to find funds for incorporating fertilizer, feed and methane recovery facilities. Also coordinate with large producers of organic wastes (stores, restaurants, hospitals) to include their byproducts in the process.

c. Request the Extension Service to give assistance in solving the problem of spreading fish wastes.

4. On behalf of sheep producers and the Oregon livestock industry, continue support of predatory animal and dog control programs felt necessary in the face of severe and repeated losses to the industry.

Implementation: a. Letters will be sent to trappers and county governments recognizing and supporting ongoing programs and increased efforts in dog control.


5. Support the preservation and enhancement of the small family farms because of their local food production and their social family value.

Implementation: a. Encourage a program which will provide assistance to small farmers in marketing their products.

b. Request Extension and individual county organizations to assist in development of small farm marketing.

6. Support request by Lincoln County for SCS to complete the county soil survey to facilitate land use planning.

Implementation: Send a letter to Lincoln County to work with the Soil Conservation Service to develop realistic goals for completion of the county soil survey program.
GOALS (Long Range)

1. Encourage development of community organizations and development corporations capable of channeling projects through RC&D, and support administration of project funding through the formation of community-controlled businesses.

2. Assist local governments and rural communities in utilizing natural resource data and related information in comprehensive planning and community improvements.

3. Encourage the schools to use natural resource curriculum materials to promote increased understanding of water and land use policies.

4. Encourage development of industries that are compatible with our basic resources of agriculture, timber and recreation.

ANNUAL PROGRAM

1. Continue contacts with school districts toward developing teacher training in land use, and in providing planning information.
   
   **Implementation:** Continue and expand teacher-training opportunities in land use planning for the RC&D Area in cooperation with the Planning Departments, LCDC coordinators, Intermediate Education Districts and Lane Outdoor Education Council.

2. Continue to provide soil and water information and educational programs for community planning agencies and citizen groups.

   **Implementation:**
   
   a. Improve availability of water resource information for use by planning agencies.
   
   b. Implement request from Lincoln County for soils survey work and educational material or workshops useful to the citizen advisory committees.

3. Coordinate county and RC&D efforts to secure public funding for community development.

   **Implementation:**
   
   a. RC&D sponsor the hiring of liaison (CETA or other) people who can disseminate information on RC&D, Community Development Councils, government assistance and land-use planning requirements for economic development, and assist
rural communities in preparing community and economic development grant proposals.

b. Channel unfunded rural projects for community development through RC&D, if they fit RC&D goals, e.g., fire and water improvements, community centers, etc.

c. Encourage formation of nongovernment economic development commissions to compliment government bodies.

The location of about 23 water control and irrigation districts within the Upper Willamette Valley area of Benton, Linn and Lane counties has been mapped by a team of CETA employees. They assisted on the first phase of a water management plan which includes identification of both completed and pending channel or irrigation improvement projects.

Working through the Linn Extension and RC&D offices, Robert Cummins, Ron Youngman and Steve Brewer contacted many directors of the districts, searched for legal descriptions and gathered information on major work each district has done or plans to do.

The report is expected to show where additional projects are needed, in what priority, and through which district or new district they might be accomplished.

The Agriculture & Water Committee of the RC&D Area has indicated interest in calling directors of these districts together during the fall or winter of 1978-79 to review major flood control and drainage needs.
GOALS (Long Range)

1. Encourage and support measures and efforts which protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat.

2. Encourage and support measures and efforts that contribute to the wise use of fish and wildlife resources.

3. Inform the public of the aesthetic, recreational, and economic value of fish and wildlife to everyday living.

4. Encourage and support hunting and fishing developments which enhance the wildlife resources.

5. Support inclusion of sound resource management courses in the curriculum of public schools in the State of Oregon.

6. Work toward better landowner-sportsmen relations.

7. Encourage and support the inclusion of public access in federally funded water-related projects.

ANNUAL PROGRAM

1. Encourage the development and/or improvement of boat launch sites on major streams.

   Implementation: a. Send a letter to the Corps of Engineers in appreciation of their plans to reconstruct the ramp at Armitage Park on the McKenzie River.
   
   b. The representative of the Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife and Lane County Parks Commission will be contacted by the Executive Secretary.

2. Continue support of Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife and other agencies in habitat improvement programs.

   Implementation: The Committee will send a letter to the Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife supporting cooperative seeding and fertilization of big game winter ranges on private and public lands, and also the development of nesting facilities for wildlife.

3. Encourage public support of Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife and other agencies' law enforcement programs.
Implementation: Report on the programs through the RC&D Newsletter.

4. Support the practice of seeding exposed soil areas such as road cuts and fills to control erosion and prevent siltation.

Implementation:  
   a. The Committee will write a letter to the County Commissioners to point out the importance of the practice and suggest critical sites which need treatment.
   b. Also a letter will be sent to the Transportation Departments (Public Works Depts.) in each county.

5. Support the development of aquaculture to supplement coastal water-based food production.

Implementation: Disseminate the information on new federal aquaculture bill through the RC&D Newsletter.

Periwinkle RC&D Project--At Grand Prairie Park in Albany a new "fishing hole" is a challenge.

"Fish & Wildlife Films" was prepared at the request of the RC&D Fish & Wildlife Committee, and is available at the RC&D Area Office.
GOALS (Long Range)

1. Strive for improvement of the quantity and quality of recreational facilities on public and private lands of the area. Seek and promote increased multiple use opportunities through total resource development for recreational enjoyment on public and private lands of the RC&D Area.

2. Support and promote legislation that will enhance recreational management and opportunities on public and private lands. Urge the establishment of priorities in the management of public land for recreational use before acquiring land that is in private ownership.

3. Coordinate and make available technical information on recreational needs to planning groups and others involved in long range planning for public and private lands and waters.

4. Support and encourage efforts by the state and others to identify, control, and educate the public concerning pollution and acts of vandalism which seriously affect recreational opportunities on public and private lands and waters.

5. Support emphasis on recreational planning in Oregon to accommodate the physically and visually handicapped.

6. Encourage planners and park people to recognize flood zones, shrink-swell conditions, aquifer areas, steep slopes and other natural conditions which may affect land use, and utilize such areas as potential open space or recreational lands wherever possible.

7. Support the state and local historic and recreational trail program.

8. Support and encourage studies which will identify the needs and proposed solutions to the conflicts of special interest recreation groups, such as those interested in off-road vehicles and water oriented sports, etc.

9. Encourage as a priority the research and development of recreation programs and facilities which will result in the efficient and clean use of energy.
ANNUAL PROGRAM

1. Continue to actively participate in the review of the plan for the development and management of the Willamette River Greenway, and encourage and urge greater local public input into the Greenway Plan.

   Implementation:  
   a. Encourage the State Department of Transportation to better inform residents along the Willamette River of the status of the Greenway. 
   b. Participate in local Willamette Greenway public meetings.

2. Encourage additional recreational and fish and wildlife opportunities.

   Implementation:  
   a. Assist in the development of stream access location maps. 
   b. Inform the public of possible sources of funding for boat launch installation. 
   c. Assist the Fish & Wildlife Committee in encouraging development of stream access. 
   d. Encourage the use of volunteer groups in helping develop recreational facilities such as trails and access points through contact with the State Parks and Recreation Branch for possible sites.

3. Review and recommend laws, rules and regulations affecting recreation.

   Implementation:  
   a. Communicate with State Parks Branch and others concerning laws, rules and regulations relating to liability and other matters. 
   b. Support the enforcement of rules and regulations on public or private lands used for public recreation purposes.


   Implementation:  
   a. Distribute RC&D informational brochure and include details in quarterly RC&D Newsletter. 
   b. Inform state and county agencies of possible RC&D funding opportunities.
Planning Meeting:
Coe Leavengood
Scott Stefansen
Doug Cruickshank
Sam Frear
Hal Hartzell
Dave Stere
Bob Hohenhaus

Linn Small Woodland Assn.
Soil Conservation Service
RC&D/OSFD U&M forester
USDA--Willamette National Forest
Lane Co. Public Service Bldg.
Oregon Dept. of Forestry
chairman (North Lane SWCD)

Albany
Eugene
Springfield
Eugene
Eugene
Salem
Eugene

LONG RANGE GOAL: ACCELERATE MANAGEMENT ON ALL FOREST AND WOODLAND BY PROVIDING LANDOWNERS WITH EDUCATIONAL, FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ADVICE OR ASSISTANCE.

ANNUAL PROGRAM

1. Coordinate efforts to contact private woodland owners to make them aware of the opportunities of woodland management.


   b. Extension Service and Oregon State Forestry Dept. develop a mailer directed toward assisting small woodland owners.

2. When not available from other sources, provide educational, financial and technical advice or assistance to private woodland owners.


3. Support revision and develop publications beneficial to the woodland owners as needed and funds are available.

   Implementation: Encourage existing agencies to prepare brief handouts on various methods used in good woodland management. For instance,
   - manual site preparation alternatives;
   - greater utilization of forest products, slash residue, hardwoods;
   - visual aids or job sheets to understand different practices.

4. Continue coordination of efforts to get forest land back into production.

   Implementation: a. Develop and categorize existing resources to identify forest lands needing silvicultural treatment to return them to full forest production.
b. Monitor the public funded programs that are being proposed at the state and federal levels and, as funds and/or manpower become available, through available communication channels co-ordinate agencies' efforts with the landowners needing help.

5. Review and submit legislation affecting the state forestry program.

6. Coordinate availability of tree planting stock.

**Implementation:**

a. Encourage identification of the volume of trees needed by seed zones.

b. Help small woodland owners obtain their fair share by coordinating existing supplies with tree farmer needs.

c. Support programs for development and study of transplant nurseries to inhibit the destruction of stock at the end of the tree-planting season.

7. Explore methods for site preparation and brush management.

**II. LONG RANGE GOAL: IMPROVE THE UTILIZATION AND MARKETING OF FOREST PRODUCTS.**

**ANNUAL PROGRAM**

A. Improve utilization--Improve cutting practices to increase volume in woods.

**Implementation:**

1. Continue cooperation with Extension Service, USDA Forest Service and Oregon State Forestry Dept. in conducting studies to determine maximum return from stands by varied cutting procedures.

2. Assemble current information for improving utilization of western hardwoods, and support efforts to develop techniques for processing.

3. Promote greater utilization of forest residue, i.e., fuel products, insulation and soil amendments.

B. Improve marketing--Promote additional markets to utilize materials not now saleable that can be harvested from forest land.

**Implementation:**

1. Hardwoods - Contact various research centers and assemble information for distribution to encourage marketing of hardwoods.

2. Small Roundwoods -
a. Promote acceptance in the building code of utilizing roundwood products.

b. Encourage harvesting of precommercial thinning material for posts.

3. Firewood —
   a. Promote changes in liability laws affecting public access to forest residues.
   b. Support centralized residue collection centers for greater public and private access to waste wood products.
   c. Encourage development of small woodland cooperatives for manufacturing and marketing of forest owners' products through community development organizations.

Horse logging in second growth thinning.
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