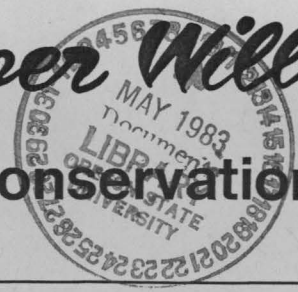




Upper Willamette

Resource Conservation & Development



RC&D AREA NEWSLETTER

--Volume XII, No. 2 - October 1982

954 13th Avenue West
Eugene, OR 97402

RC&D MEETING

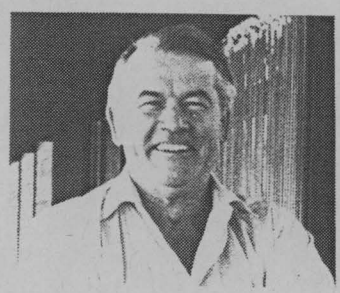
The next meeting of the Upper Willamette RC&D Area will be in Eugene on October 25, 1982. The meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m. in the Extension Auditorium at 950 13th Avenue West. Jack Kanalz, new State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Portland will discuss the RC&D Program in Oregon. Jerry Diethelm, co-chairman of the Emerald Waterways Citizens' Committee will present a slide program on the proposed Emerald Canal.

At 5:30 p.m. we will adjourn for a no-host dinner where Mary Secombe, President of the Western RC&D Association, Butte, Montana will be speaking on her activities with the Association.

TOM'S CORNER

Dear Friends--

It is time for the Sponsors and Friends of RC&D to rally around and decide how to best utilize the RC&D Program to help our communities and encourage the best management of our resources.



I will bring a proposal to the October meeting on restructuring our Committees. I believe this change will bring us closer to matching available RC&D programs to local problems. The proposal will suggest three committees: -Community Services
-Resource Management and
-Economic Development.

This structure also follows the recent enabling legislation and should make our funding requests more efficient and easier to apply for.

We have made a special effort in the October meeting to bring knowledgeable people in to help us improve our program. Besides Jack Kanalz, SCS State Conservationist, and Mary Secombe, president of the Western RC&D Association, Mary Burroughs, a Lane County Representative has agreed to help us as legislative advisor and John Anderson, Lane County Economic Foundation, will be available as economic advisor.

This meeting could be a turning point for the Upper Willamette RC&D Area. I think we have demonstrated in the past what can be done, but now the future is rapidly demanding that we assess our resources and test our priorities.

I believe that one of the most important things that RC&D can do in the future is to keep in perspective the necessary balance between immediate economic needs and long-term conservation. As that valiant warrior Tom McCall recently said, it's important for us to know who we are and what we want to be...I don't think he ever said that environmental protection and utilization of natural resources were mutually exclusive.

RC&D PURPOSE

This Purpose was adopted by the Sponsors at the May 21, 1982 meeting in Newport. It is based on elements in the new Farm Bill for a permanent RC&D Program.

Because of increasing demands, two basic assumptions need to be made for our future planning--

1. The necessity to maintain the resource base, and
2. The need for Best Management Practices.

The following elements should be included in a permanent RC&D Program:

- A. A LAND CONSERVATION AND UTILIZATION element:
 1. Protect the resource base for agriculture and forestry as primary uses where appropriate.

2. Control erosion and sedimentation.
3. Protect fish and wildlife habitat.

B. A WATER MANAGEMENT element to provide for conservation and utilization of water, including:

1. Irrigation and drainage;
2. Rural water supplies;
3. Mitigation of floods and high water tables;
4. Water retention;
5. Improvement of agricultural water management, and
6. Improvement of water quality through control of nonpoint sources of pollution.

C. A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT element whose purpose will be to provide:

1. Development of natural resource based industry;
2. Development of aquaculture;
3. Adequacy of rural water area water and waste disposal systems;
4. Improvement in recreational facilities;
5. Rural housing;
6. Adequate health and education facilities, and
7. Essential transportation and communication needs.

D. Other elements and associated measures which may include:

1. Energy conservation and the production of alternate energy, and
2. Preservation of unique natural and cultural resources.

OUR RC&D WORK PLAN

The following has been proposed to the Sponsors as the 1982-83 Work Plan and is based on the adopted operating Policy:

1. The FLOOD PREVENTION AND DRAINAGE STUDY, involving portions of Linn, Benton and Lane counties, be completed and a brief narrative be printed and distributed.
2. Emphasis on financially assisted projects be given to BASIC NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT fundamental to agriculture, forestry and water resources. This would include projects such as CRITICAL AREA TREATMENT, FLOOD PREVENTION, FARM IRRIGATION, and LAND DRAINAGE.
3. WOODLAND MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE--Continue and expand assistance to the woodland management programs in the four RC&D counties.
4. FISH & WILDLIFE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT--Assist where possible to acquire and/or improve habitat for fish and wildlife.

ANY PROJECTS?

To implement the Work Plan, technical and financial assistance is available through the Upper Willamette RC&D Area. Obtaining funds is not a simple matter; however, we have always been able to assist project sponsors when plans have been prepared and all necessary supporting data has been completed.

Projects the RC&D Sponsors have identified as being high priority are:

CRITICAL AREA TREATMENT--Erosion and sediment control on both public and private lands. Eligible practices include but not limited are: plantings, grade stabilization structures, fencing, grassed waterways and tree planting.

FLOOD PREVENTION--Reduce or prevent water damage from flooding of land, business or other areas. This could be done by: open channel, clearing or snagging, floodway stream channel stabilization or diking.

FARM IRRIGATION--Improve the efficient and sustained productive use of agricultural land and water resources. Practices that are eligible include: water supply reservoirs, wells, pumping plants, and main distribution pipelines to farm boundaries.

LAND DRAINAGE--Eligible for open space areas, recreation lands, and agricultural lands. Drainage problems may be corrected by the installation of surface drainage, open or closed drains and drop structures.

Projects must be sponsored by a legal entity who will assume operation and maintenance responsibilities. Except for critical area treatment projects, they "must be economically feasible."

MONTIETH PARK

(Originally "Albany Riverfront Park")--is under construction. A portion of the bike path has been completed. Grading for the parking lot near the Albany Senior Center is underway. Piling for the moorage and dock will be driven when the water level rises permitting equipment to be moved into place.

LETTER FROM MARCOLA

This summer a letter was sent to past recipients of RC&D funds asking their reaction to the process of obtaining RC&D funds and the results. The following is an excerpt from the letter George Davis sent regarding the flood prevention project that was done for Marcola;

"I feel I am speaking for the people of Marcola when I tell you that we think the RC&D funds could not have been spent any better...The benefits we have received, both around the Elementary School and the community itself, have to us been without measure."

ASCS NEWS

Cost-share funding for conservation practices is available through your local offices of the Agriculture Stabilization & Conservation Service. These programs may vary from county to county. They include:

1. Prevention of soil loss from water and wind--
Examples: vegetative cover, terrace systems, diversions, reduced tillage systems, etc.
2. Solutions to water conservation problems--
Examples: water impoundment and irrigation water conservation.
3. Solutions to water quality problems--
Examples: sedimentation control, stream protection, animal waste control, etc.
4. Conservation of soil and water through forest management.
5. Conservation of wildlife habitat.

Some county offices are offering funding for No-Till practices and, under FIP, tree planting may be available.

FUNDS AVAILABLE UNDER RC&D 9.352% LOANS-- Towns or Non-profit Groups

Funds are available for a wide variety of projects through RC&D loans administered jointly by the RC&D Council and the Farmers Home Administration.

Rate for 1982: 9.352%

Term: 30 years - may be paid off sooner with no penalty.

Limit: \$500,000 per project.

Who may borrow? Loans may be made anywhere within an RC&D area to public bodies which are agencies of state, counties, municipalities and other state subdivisions, including public agencies created under state law. Loans also may be made to private nonprofit corporations.

How can funds be used? Funds may be used for such purposes as water facilities, including the construction or improvement of works of flood prevention, erosion control, water storage for community supply and pollution abatement, public water-based recreation developments, and public water-based fish and wildlife developments.

Loans can also be made for facilities and equipment, including garbage trucks, sanitary landfills, and incinerators to collect, treat and dispose of solid wastes.

These loans are designed to help local people meet their share of the costs of projects covered by an RC&D Area plan. RC&D programs to improve the economy of communities in a project area are based on the conservation, development and use of natural resources.

These funds may be used for public water-based recreational and fish and wildlife developments to help public entities obtain the local share of costs for such developments for which the Soil Conservation Service is providing RC&D technical or financial assistance and also shift in land use, such as conversion to pasture, forestry, wildlife areas, grazing, parks, greenbelts and other open spaces that will serve rural communities.

Interested towns or non-profit groups should contact the RC&D office (687-6454) or FmHA (687-6850) for more information and applications.

NEW ORCHARD

Crews will begin clearing ground for a 600-acre tree-seed orchard near Lorane later this month that is expected to produce benefits throughout Western Oregon.

Dwight Patton, Eugene district manager for the Bureau of Land Management, said the orchard will be used to produce trees with superior characteristics. "They'll grow faster and larger, helping to get higher-quality timber on the market in a shorter period of time," he said.

The 8 to 10-year project is expected to cost an estimated \$3 million, Patton said. More than two years of study went into the selection of the site, which is located about four miles west of Lorane.

Seed produced from the trees at the nursery will be used in the Bureau's reforestation programs in the Eugene, Roseburg and Coos Bay districts of Western Oregon. The grafted trees should start providing some seed within six to eight years, and the orchard will be in full production in 15 to 20 years, said Cary Osterhaus, a forest geneticist.

There is a four-word formula for success that applies equally well to organizations or individuals--make yourself more useful.

TOUGH TIMES FOR EXTENSION

Each year your County Extension Service reaches county residents with useful and relevant information based on the latest research from Oregon State University and other educational institutions. Serving Lane, Linn, Lincoln and Benton counties for over 65 years, the Extension Service provides and translates technical information for local farmers, fishermen, foresters, home gardeners, homemakers and businesses. It also runs the popular 4-H program, the second largest youth organization in the state after the public school system.

This program depends on a "cooperative agreement" between federal, state and county governments. County support is only 15% of total budget and these funds provide secretarial salaries, agent travel, and telephone and utility expenses. Without this support, the agents can no longer carry out their duties effectively and continued funding from state and federal sources can be in question.

Of the four counties, Lincoln is in the best budget situation now. Their problem was in 1979 and county residents went out and formed an Extension Service District. Upon seeing the amount of support for Extension, Lincoln County Commissioners pulled Extension back into the general fund and passed a county-wide tax base.

Benton County has taken a 15% cut in county funds from last year's budget and is sharing agents from other counties to make ends meet. Linn County is only funded for 40% of last year's budget and is terminating two agents and secretarial staff.

Lane County Extension has the worst problem in this area due to total elimination of county money for secretarial help and other

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office expenses. Lane County government is still providing their building and utilities. By using money from unbudgeted reserves and a citizen's group called "Friends of Extension" Lane County Extension is operating at 1/3 of last year's level. A proposal for an Extension Service District to fund the county portion has been placed in the county's Intergovernmental Relations Committee with a report due in December.

In general, times are tough as everyone knows. It is a paradox that at a time when it's needed most, Extension is in dire need of help itself.

WHO ARE THE SPONSORS?

County Governments: Benton, Lane, Lincoln and Linn;

Soil & Water Conservation Districts: Benton, Lincoln, Linn, North Lane, Siuslaw and Upper Willamette;

Port Commissions: Newport and Siuslaw

RC&D Executive Council

Chairman: Tom Kerr, director, Upper Willamette SWCD

Vice Chairman: Don Shaffer, director, Lincoln SWCD

Secretary: Ben Christensen, director, Linn SWCD

Treasurer: Bob Hohenhaus, director, North Lane SWCD

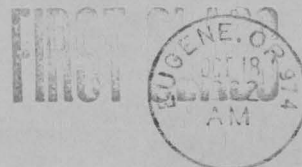
Staff

Coordinator: David Anderson, USDA, Soil Conservation Service

RC&D Forester: Doug Cruickshank, Oregon Department of Forestry

Secretary: Jeane Hutcheson, USDA, Soil Conservation Service

Don't open your mouth just to change feet!



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