



## Umpqua SWCD District Manager's Report

June 4, 2026

- OWEB:
  - 2023-2025 District Operations Capacity Grant –
    - OWEB/ODA Capacity Grant Feedback - Important! Survey is still available and can be found at the SWCD website at: <https://umpquasoilandwater.specialdistrict.org/oweb-oda-capacity-grant-feedback-survey> . Thanks to those of you who attended the OWEB listening session(s)! Attending the listening session on May 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - OWEB Small Grants Program:
    - OWEB Small Grants Status:
      - Otter-Baumgartner Ranch Livestock Exclusion –
        - Monitoring report due July 31, 2027.
      - Elk Creek Riparian OWEB Small Grant –
        - Monitoring report due July 31, 2027.
      - Providence Creek Runoff Management –
        - Monitoring reporting due April 8, 2027.
      - Parent Ranch Livestock Exclusion Phase 1 –
        - Monitoring reporting due April 20, 2028.
      - Costa Ranch Runoff Management –
        - Grant approved by OWEB on November 22, 2024 with \$15,000 for gutters, downspouts, drainage line, geotextile fabric, and gravel for the heavy use protection area. In contact with both Mr. Costa and the gravel hauler in an effort to prepare for stockpiling 18 ten-yard loads of gravel for the heavy use area at the barn. Once everything is determined, we can request the 60% OWEB advance to cover the cost of the gravel for this project with implementation to start occurring this summer. Landowner will prepare the site by grading for the heavy use area, trenching and installing the downspout drain lines, installing gutters and downspouts on the barn, and installing the piping for the livestock watering system.
        - Answered questions and provided information via email, text, and telephone.
        - End date: November 1, 2026.
        - Completion reporting due: December 31, 2026.
  - OWEB TA Grant:
    - Will be resubmitting grant. Possibly breaking it down into smaller, more manageable grants. For instance, one for the Scholfield Creek Head of Tide area (livestock exclusion fencing, riparian plantings, farm bridges, heavy use areas, and the tidegate on Scholfield Creek). Then another, possibly at a much later date, for the fish passage bridges on Providence Creek and Decker Point.
- BLM:
  - BLM Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination grant, “Umpqua Noxious Weed Control” for both contractor and myself for \$24,000. Met with the BLM on May 27<sup>th</sup> with John Colby to discuss how the BLM would like to see the grant implemented. Right now, it looks like it will be for a few very specific projects. Received information about spray contractors they prefer.
- PARTNERSHIPS:
  - Umpqua 7, Coos 4, Mid-Coast 3 OWEB Small Grant Teams –
    - Umpqua 7 –
      - Working with Lee Russell with Elk Creek Watershed Coalition.

- Elk Creek Watershed Coalition was recommended for funding for the Team Leader grant of \$20,000 for the biennium. Umpqua SWCD is supposed to be written in on the contracted services line to write brochures and fact sheets for the outreach. We will need an MOU, but do have an updated budget with each of our responsibilities hand-written in, so this is helpful.
- Coos 4 – No new news.
- Mid-Coast 3 – Attended review team meeting on May 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers –
  - PUR meeting – Attended May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Annual meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup> at Bare Park in Roseburg.
  - Not sure when public tour of Glover site will occur.
  - Glover Lands Estuary Enhancement Project – Landowner working on fencing and watering system installation.
    - Received information from ODFW which showcases the Glover Project, PUR and the SWCD on the ODFW website and can be found at: [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/habitat/NWL/projects/smith\\_river\\_estuary\\_restoration.html](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/habitat/NWL/projects/smith_river_estuary_restoration.html) . We will be adding this information to the SWCD website and social media.
  - Attended a partnership meeting with Criz Salzar and received updates on the Glover Project and Kennedy Slough Project on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Providence Creek Area Updates:
  - Providence Creek Tide Gates –
    - In a holding pattern due to previous Port Commission decision to back out of project.
    - Had a meeting with Porior Engineering on December 6<sup>th</sup> who felt that we could get the fish passage plan done while we're in limbo on the project. We will need to find funding to complete this portion of the project.
    - Met with Port Manager on December 9<sup>th</sup> and discussed the fish passage plan. Since the MOU is still in place it was decided to go forward with finding funding to get the plan done so we would have some of the groundwork out of the way as the tide gate replacement project still needs to occur. The Port will provide a letter of support, possibly some in-kind match in the form of employee time toward the passage plan. Will contact engineer to follow-up with planning.
    - Met with Port Manager on January 20<sup>th</sup> to find ways to move forward on project. Found the City Manager had contacted him to encourage movement forward on the project.
    - Attempted to set up a meet with the Reedsport City Manager, Port of Umpqua Manager, and Don Porior Engineering. We had the Port and the Engineer good with the proposed dates, but the City Manager was not willing to meet until the Port goes through the legal process with the tidegates and levies with Army Corps of Engineers.
    - Due to that situation with the Port and City, the presentation that the SWCD was going to give to the Port Commission about tidegates on May 20<sup>th</sup> has been postponed.
    - Met with the Port Manager on April 22<sup>nd</sup> to go over the Army Corps tidegates and levies on the Lower Umpqua and Lower Smith River to provide information about what has been done, what hasn't been done, who the affected landowners are, etc.

- Leeds Island Park and Restoration Project –
    - No new news. Believe this is in holding due to the Port’s levy situation.
- Douglas Weed Management Area – No new news.
- Douglas County Weed Board – Attended the meeting via the county’s Youtube weblink on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Provided Tracy Pope with Douglas County information about yellow flag iris showing up everywhere and that we still have issues with Japanese knotweed, Armenian blackberry, and Scotch Broom everywhere.
- Elk Creek Watershed Coalition –
  - Planning on attending the June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Elkton Community Education Center –
  - Blooms & Butterflies Celebration will happen June 20<sup>th</sup> at the ECEC. Have requested a table at the event.
- Forest Service –
  - Oregon Central Coast Forest Collaborative meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Hydro Breakfast Meeting – Umpqua SWCD presented this morning on June 4<sup>th</sup> about the SWCD in general and the kinds of projects and work we do. Planning meeting for the presentation on May 26 with Denise Dammann Consulting and Mikeal Jones.
- Lower Umpqua Library District –
  - The SWCD will be presenting information about AgWQ and Tsalia to the summer learning program.
- Middle Umpqua Strategic Area Planning –
  - Attended meeting today, June 4<sup>th</sup> as part of the two-year planning effort that will bring together local landowners, representatives from local restoration organizations, State and Federal agencies, and other stakeholders in the watershed to assess the current status of the coho and their habitat, identify restoration actions that can help improve coho juvenile habitat, and prioritize areas where restoration can be most effective.
- Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) –
  - Next OACD Personnel Subgroup meeting scheduled virtually
- Oregon Conservation Education Association Network (OCEAN) – No new news.
- Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association – Annual meeting scheduled for June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network –
  - Soil Health Network reporting completed.
- Oregon DEQ –
  - Umpqua TMDL Implementation –
    - Next meeting scheduled for July 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative –
  - The group is planning activities for 2026.
- Oregon Soil and Water Conservation Commission –
  - Umpqua SWCD will host their 2-day meeting on August 18 & 19, 2026 with a tour of the Glover Project on the 18<sup>th</sup> and meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> at the Port of Umpqua Annex.
- Oregon State University Extension Service –
  - OSU/Umpqua SWCD Soil Fertility Workshop planned for Saturday, July 18th at the Elkton Community Education Center.
  - Tree School Umpqua – Umpqua SWCD will have a table at the event on August 21<sup>st</sup> at the Umpqua Community College Campus.
- Port of Umpqua –
  - Umpqua SWCD will be providing a presentation about general SWCD projects and activities at the Port’s meeting on June 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Smith/Umpqua/Dunes Stewardship Group – No new news.
- Umpqua Oaks Partnership – No new news.
- Umpqua Native Plant Partnership –

- Planning a meeting with Morgan Fay regarding Glover Project Planting Plan in the future. The planting cannot happen without the livestock exclusion fencing in place.
    - Attended Annual Meeting virtually on May 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - USDA/NRCS –
    - Assisted NRCS District Conservationist Stokes with the local workgroup meeting held in Reedsport at the Port of Umpqua Annex on May 13<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. Gave presentation.
- TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:
  - Assisted landowner with soil health resources.
  - Site visit to obtain 2 soil samples and sent samples to the lab. Provided results to landowner with additional resources and contacts with OSU and the Agrarian Sharing Network.
  - Assisted OSU with soil samples and site visit for olive orchard, apple orchard, and blueberry orchard and sent samples to the lab.

Ongoing TA:

- Otter Creek OWEB Small Grant –
  - In-process. AgWQ Farm Conservation Plan completed in December and approved by landowner in January. Follow-up continuing. Grant writing begun.
- Otter Slough OWEB Small Grant –
  - In-process. Site visit completed February 4<sup>th</sup>, waiting for more information from landowner to complete the AgWQ Farm Conservation Plan, then the grant will be written. Landowner and SWCD working with NRCS for needed engineering for spring development.
- Clear Creek OWEB Small Grant –
  - In-process. Working with landowner. Site visit completed in November with follow-ups with landowner. AgWQ Farm Conservation Plan needs to be written, then the small grant will follow. Second site visit done on April 29<sup>th</sup> as many changes have occurred on the ranch.
- Oar Creek – Will need to follow-up with landowner to determine if interested in small grant and to decide details of small grant. AgWQ Farm Conservation Plan needs to be written.
- Elk Creek Riparian Restoration Projects:
  - 5 properties involved with this project, one of which is already being worked on through a small grant. Hoping to work with the City of Elkton on these projects, which will fit into their DEQ TMDL plan. This is a stretch of Elk Creek within the City limits of Elkton where there is little to no shade on the creek, and the riparian has been invaded by Armenian Blackberry and at least two different kinds of ivy, along with Reed Canary Grass.
- Providence Creek – Landowner called about fill and removal, levy repair, fencing, etc. Will follow up. Was planning on going out with consultant, but consultant was not available.
- Possible in-stream work, riparian buffer and grant for project at Wild Azalea Vineyards.
  - Mailed list of neighboring landowners so contacts can be made for neighbors on Hanes Creek to include them in grant work. ODFW on-board with project. Have not heard back. Followed up in April. Planning additional site visit.
- Ruwaldt Consulting – Met with Matt on January 28<sup>th</sup> to go over list of projects that we'll need to continue to work on and projects to begin working on this winter, but unsure if any deliverables occurred.
- ADMINISTRATION:
  - Financial documents, statements, timesheets, etc. recorded, filed, and loaded into Google Drive for Fiscal Provider.
  - Meeting information provided to Directors, and ODA WQ Specialist & Program Lead.
  - Business Meeting notice provided to media, electronic notice list, website.

- Director Elections will be happening soon! Please get ready to prepare your Candidate Packets.
- The Fiscal Provider and the District Manager had a budget planning meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Will need to take a few days off to care for a family member having surgery, likely July 8-12<sup>th</sup>.
- We have an applicant for the part-part-time employment opportunity and planning on an interview date.