



Umpqua SWCD District Manager's Report

May 14, 2026

- OWEB:
 - 2023-2025 District Operations Capacity Grant –
 - OWEB/ODA Capacity Grant Feedback - Multiple Meeting Dates & Times. Important! Information on SWCD Website.
 - 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 –
 - Completion reporting done April 15th and fully through the process.
 - 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.
 - Workshops/Classes –
 - OSU/SWCD Soil Fertility Workshop planned for Saturday, July 18th at the Elkton Community Education Center.
 - 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. Will be meeting with the BLM soon to discuss how they would like to see the grant implemented.
- 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 – No new news.
- Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers –
 - PUR meeting – Next meeting May 19th.
 - Not sure when public tour of Glover site will occur.
 - Glover Lands Estuary Enhancement Project – Landowner working on fencing and watering system installation.
- 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 6th 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 9th 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 20th 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 20th has been postponed.
 - Met with the Port Manager on April 22nd 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. Ruwaldt Consulting was to contact the Reedsport City Manager to set up a meeting to discuss the project, but that has not happened. The SWCD contacted the City Manager and found that, just like the Providence Creek tidegates, it was the same with Leeds Island due to the levy system at Leeds Island.

- A member of the Reedsport Parks and Beautification Committee contacted the landowner and found the landowner is still very interested in working with both the SWCD and City on this project.
- Douglas Weed Management Area – The April 14th meeting was cancelled, but they did put out a short newsletter.
- Elk Creek Watershed Coalition –
 - Was unable to attend the April and May meetings, but am planning on attending the June 9th meeting.
- Forest Service –
 - Oregon Central Coast Forest Collaborative meeting on May 28th.
- Hydro Breakfast Meeting – Will be presenting at the June 4th meeting. Probably about tidegates and small grants.
- Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) –
 - Next OACD Personnel Subgroup meeting scheduled virtually for May 18th.
- Oregon Conservation Education Association Network (OCEAN) –
 - Attended CONNECT from March 31st through April 2nd in Seaside at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center.
- Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association – Annual meeting scheduled for June 8th.
- Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network –
 - Soil Health Network reporting completed.
- Oregon DEQ –
 - Umpqua TMDL Implementation –
 - Next meeting scheduled for July 14th.
- 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 18th and meeting on the 19th at the Port of Umpqua Annex.
- 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.
- USDA/NRCS –
 - Assisted NRCS District Conservationist Stokes with the local workgroup meeting held in Reedsport at the Port of Umpqua Annex on May 13th 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 4th, 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 29th 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 28th 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.