

Middle Deschutes WS Councils Work Plan for 07/01/2015 - 06/30/2017	
Date Adopted	2/24/2015
Watershed Limiting Factor(s)	Habitat Access - Impaired access to habitat; Hydrograph/water quantity - Altered hydrology; Knowledge Gaps - Lack of Information; Physical habitat quality - Altered quality of physical habitat; Water Quality - Altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.
Watershed Source Document(s)	Middle Deschutes Agricultural Water Quality Management Plan (2014) ODFW Crooked River Basin Plan (Includes Willow Creek) (2004) Willow Creek Proper Functioning Conditions (PFC) Report (2005) Agency Plains Monitoring Reports: Nitrate Conditions (2013) Oregon Conservation Strategy (2006) Deschutes Sub-Basin Plan (2004) DEQ: Water Quality Status and Action Plan: Deschutes Basin (2011) Trout Creek Watershed Assessment (2002) Willow Creek Watershed Assessment (2000) ODFW's Mid Columbia River Steelhead Conservation and Recovery Plan (2010) NMFS's Mid-Columbia River Steelhead Nitrate concentrations in Willow Creek and the Agency Plains Aquifer (2003) Water Quality Status and Action Plan: Deschutes Basin (2011) Pesticide Stewardship Partnership (2014) ODFW Fish Passage Barriers and Water Diversion Screen Assessment (2015)
Organizational Limiting Factor(s)	Access to training; Board capacity development; Board skill development; Lack of Knowledge; Office infrastructure; Staff capacity development; Staff skill development; Training
Organizational Source Document(s)	MDWC and Jefferson County SWCD Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement (2014) MDWC Policies and Procedures (2014) MDWC Council Coordinator Job Description (2015) MDWC By-Laws (2013) MDWC Board Member Job Description (2015) MDWC Officer Position Descriptions (2015) MDWC Racial and Ethnic Impact Statement (2015) MDWC Self Evaluations on File (2015) MDWC Agenda and Board Minutes (2013 - Present) MDWC Sign in Sheets (2013 - Present) Jefferson County Letter of Acknowledgement and Support of MDWC (2013) Map(s) of Watershed Racial and Ethnic Impact Statement (2015)
Watershed Action Plan(s)	Middle Deschutes Watershed Council Action Plan (May 2015)

Project Category: Restoration			
Project Title	Willow Creek Upland and Riparian Enhancement	OWEB Grant #	215-4022
Responsible Parties	Coordinator/Executive Director	Priority	High
Project Description	Project is located along Willow Creek, a tributary to the Deschutes River. Purpose of the project is to restore groundwater storage and discharge within and along Willow Creek making more water available for riparian and upland vegetation as well as aquatic and upland terrestrial species. Juniper reduction is planned along 5 miles of Willow Creek, where the creek enters the National Grassland.	In Council Action Plan	Yes
Key Partners	JCSWCD, US Forest Service, Crooked River NG,		
Limiting Factor(s)	Hydrograph/water quantity - Altered hydrology, Physical habitat quality - Altered quality of physical habitat		
Original Date	2/18/2015	% Complete	5-30% - Conceptual/ Planning/ Submitting Grant application
Challenges	<p>Funding has been applied for but not yet secured.</p> <p>This project is sometimes deemed a low priority area as Willow Creek does not flow continuously to the Deschutes River.</p> <p>Staff capacity.</p>		
Opportunities	<p>The 1850 acres in the Willow Creek watershed were selected for this project because there is a real opportunity for large scale improvement in the ecological conditions of the watershed, it coincides with previously implemented work from 2009 – 2011, and will hopefully jump start other improvements of this nature both on and off the National Grasslands in the Willow Creek watershed.</p> <p>The STEM program out of Culver High School will be involved in doing some restoration work in the Willow Creek project area.</p>		

Planned Deliverables	<p>If the project is funded:</p> <p>Juniper Treatments: Felling of post settlement juniper to improve fuel conditions on 1850 acres near Willow Creek on the Crooked River National Grasslands.</p> <p>Prescribed Burn: Prescribed burn where needed to meet objectives (residual under story and old growth juniper and Ponderosa pine are to be retained.)</p> <p>Re-Establishment of deep rooted perennial vegetation: Deep rooted perennial vegetation present throughout 80% of the burned areas within 3 years post burn.</p>		
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Project Category: Restoration			
Project Title	Foley Creek Restoration Plan	OWEB Grant #	
Responsible Parties	Coordinator/Executive Director	Priority	High
Project Description	Collaborate and provide support to the Jefferson County SWCD to identify projects on private lands along Foley Creek, a tributary to Trout Creek, to strategically address water quality issues, fish passage potential, and secure funding to write a Foley Creek Restoration Plan.	In Council Action Plan	Yes
Key Partners	JCSWCD, NRCS, Landowners, ODFW, ODF		
Limiting Factor(s)	Staff capacity development, Hydrograph/water quantity - Altered hydrology, Physical habitat quality - Altered quality of physical habitat, Water Quality - Altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics., Knowledge Gaps - Lack of Information		
Original Date	2/18/2015	% Complete	5-30% - Conceptual/Planning/Submitting Grant application
Challenges	Knowledge gaps remain on land that has not been assessed  Project funding for Technical Assistance  Staff capacity  The land has been overgrazed by Cattle		
Opportunities	We have a willing and engaged landowner who owns large parcels of land within the Trout Creek Watershed. This landowner is excited for restoration possibilities on Foley Creek  Opportunities to strategically evaluate Foley Creek from the headwater to its mouth at Trout Creek so ensure the highest level of rehabilitation  Trout Creek is a high priority area  Good fish passage is possible, good stream side restoration is possible, good demonstration area is possible.		

Planned Deliverables	Research and develop a technical assistance grant proposal		
	Initiate a planning process for a strategic restoration plan		

Project Category: Restoration			
Project Title	Upper Trout Creek Juniper Eradication Project	OWEB Grant #	
Responsible Parties	Coordinator/Executive Director	Priority	High
Project Description	Trout Creek Watershed: Work with the Jefferson SWCD Trout Creek Project Manager for ways to improve upland condition by removing Juniper and controlling annual grasses and noxious weeds. Educate landowners on juniper best management practices.	In Council Action Plan	Yes
Key Partners	JCSWCD, Landowners, ODF, USFWS		
Limiting Factor(s)	Habitat Access - Impaired access to habitat, Hydrograph/water quantity - Altered hydrology, Physical habitat quality - Altered quality of physical habitat, Water Quality -Altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics., Knowledge Gaps - Lack of Information		
Original Date	2/18/2015	% Complete	5-30% - Conceptual/ Planning/Submitting Grant application
Challenges	Funding Staff Capacity Knowledge of the area		
Opportunities	There is good opportunity for increased landowner engagement  Trout Creek is listed as a high priority area  We will be able to educate landowners on Juniper BMP's including proper cutting techniques and prescribed burning techniques.  Working with Landowners, we will be on course to define strategic areas to work in		

Planned Deliverables	<p>Hold Workshop for BMP's of Juniper Cutting and Prescribed Burning, Soil Health</p> <p>Commitments from landowners for project cutting in Upper Trout Creek</p> <p>Strategic Area Map</p> <p>Begin grant proposal for Juniper Eradication In Upper Trout Creek</p>		
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Project Category: Monitoring and Assessment			
Project Title	Middle Deschutes Water Quality Project	OWEB Grant #	
Responsible Parties	Coordinator/Executive Director	Priority	High
Project Description	This project proposes to work with the Jefferson County SWCD to identify key partners and suitable locations to collect and establish baseline water quality data.	In Council Action Plan	Yes
Key Partners	JCSWCD, Municipalities, DEQ, OSU, Bordering Watershed Councils, NUID		
Limiting Factor(s)	Staff capacity development, Staff skill development, Habitat Access - Impaired access to habitat, Hydrograph/water quantity - Altered hydrology, Physical habitat quality - Altered quality of physical habitat, Water Quality - Altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics., Knowledge Gaps - Lack of Information		
Original Date	2/18/2015	% Complete	5-30% - Conceptual/ Planning/ Submitting Grant application
Challenges	<p>The watershed is comprised of both public and private lands. Gaining landowner permission for long term access for monitoring can prove challenging.</p> <p>Developing a monitoring protocol that is statistically rigorous, field attainable with available financial resources and within the technical capacity (staff expertise, field equipment) of the council may be challenging.</p> <p>Staff Capacity</p>		
Opportunities	<p>Jefferson County SWCD can provide needed technical assistance capacity.</p> <p>Identify locations in the watershed to establish long term monitoring sites that will provide baseline and future water quality data.</p>		

Planned Deliverables	<p>Water Quality Monitoring Plan</p> <p>Identification of long term water quality monitoring location</p> <p>Field survey that clearly describes replicable survey methods</p> <p>Processed and cleaned field data</p> <p>Research technical assistance funding opportunities to implement plan</p>		
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Project Category: Monitoring and Assessment			
Project Title	Update Willow Creek Watershed Proper Functioning Channel Assessment	OWEB Grant #	
Responsible Parties	Coordinator/Executive Director	Priority	High
Project Description	This project will research, develop, implement and report on a stream assessment of Willow Creek. This project will update a 2005 Proper Functioning Condition assessment, collect data on current riparian conditions, assess fish screens at irrigation diversions and provide information that can be used in generating a formal report. This report will identify opportunities to implement future projects in the Willow Creek watershed and provide baseline data to inform future monitoring and trend.	In Council Action Plan	Yes
Key Partners	JCSWCD, DEQ, Landowners, Crooked River NG, US Forest Service, ODA, Schools		
Limiting Factor(s)	Lack of Knowledge, Habitat Access - Impaired access to habitat, Hydrograph/water quantity - Altered hydrology, Physical habitat quality - Altered quality of physical habitat, Water Quality -Altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics., Knowledge Gaps - Lack of Information		
Original Date	2/18/2015	% Complete	5-30% - Conceptual/ Planning/ Submitting Grant application
Challenges	Staff capacity  Knowledge gaps  Landowners on the upper reaches may pose a challenge in accessing the properties along Willow Creek.		

Opportunities	<p>We will continue collaborative relationships among partners, and landowners will benefit from future projects within the watershed.</p> <p>There is opportunity to collect baseline data to inform restoration prioritization and actions</p> <p>Jefferson County SWCD can provide technical assistance</p> <p>School education activities could provide a perfect avenue for data collection</p> <p>Field equipment purchases can be obtained through these educational avenues</p>		
Planned Deliverables	<p>Willow Creek Stream Assessment including, but not limited to, an updated PFC report</p> <p>Inventory of Riparian Conditions</p> <p>Inventory of Fish Screens at diversions along Willow Creek</p> <p>Monitoring protocol for inventorying fish screens at diversions that is field attainable with available financial resources and within the technical capacity (staff expertise, field equipment of council)</p> <p>Provide comprehensive list and mapping of documented conditions</p>		

Project Category: Community Engagement (outreach and education)			
Project Title	Developing a Middle Deschutes Outdoor School	OWEB Grant #	
Responsible Parties	Coordinator/Executive Director	Priority	High
Project Description	Through collaborative partnerships develop and implement a local two-day, one night Outdoor School, targeting 5th and 6th Graders. Hold "discovery sessions" in the classroom, during the months leading to the camp. Local volunteers and agency staff will lead sessions at the Outdoor School.	In Council Action Plan	Yes
Key Partners	Redband Ranch, Trout Creek Ranch/PGE, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, USFS, Ochoco NGL, Schools		
Limiting Factor(s)	Staff capacity development, Lack of Knowledge, Staff skill development, Office infrastructure, Knowledge Gaps - Lack of Information		
Original Date	2/26/2015	% Complete	5-30% - Conceptual/ Planning/ Submitting Grant application
Challenges	<p>Staff Capacity</p> <p>Recruiting enough Volunteers for the Outdoor School day(s)</p> <p>Working with the School Districts both Jefferson County and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs to incorporate into the curriculum</p>		
Opportunities	<p>2 key outdoor school venues are possible with both Redband Ranch and Trout Creek Ranch (across from one another. There are both meeting facilities and dorms available)</p> <p>Madras Schools have indicated a willingness to work out Natural Resource curriculum</p> <p>Confederated Tribes teacher has already been assisted by Jefferson County SWCD Staff on a field day so that partnership is currently being established and can be further established</p>		

Planned Deliverables	<p>Identify key partners and build those relationships to initialize the creation of an Annual Youth Outdoor School</p> <p>Concept outlined</p> <p>Proposal(s) for Grant Funding drafted</p>		
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Project Category: Community Engagement (outreach and education)			
Project Title	Youth Watershed Council, Restoration Team	OWEB Grant #	215-4021
Responsible Parties	Coordinator/Executive Director	Priority	High
Project Description	Students at Culver High School enrolled in the Natural Resource Class in conjunction with the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) program. This project will meet the needs of students tasked with achieving benchmarks of scientific inquiry and integrating STEM with a hands on approach to learning watershed ecology principles by actively assisting in work towards restoring Willow Creek and McMeen Creek to a better functioning condition.	In Council Action Plan	Yes
Key Partners	US Forest Service, Crooked River National Grasslands, Culver High School, JCSWCD, ODF		
Limiting Factor(s)	Staff capacity development, Lack of Knowledge, Staff skill development, Habitat Access - Impaired access to habitat, Hydrograph/water quantity - Altered hydrology, Physical habitat quality - Altered quality of physical habitat, Water Quality -Altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics., Knowledge Gaps - Lack of Information		
Original Date	2/26/2015	% Complete	5-30% - Conceptual/ Planning/Submitting Grant application
Challenges	Funding has been applied for but has not been secured  Student engagement. The technology revolution and students not seeing the "need" to engage in Natural Resource Activities Meeting times and dates can be a challenge		
Opportunities	There is great opportunity to engage Culver students in stream restoration activities in conjunction with the MDWC, from initial project planning, implementation and post project effectiveness monitoring  Strong partnerships in place		

Planned Deliverables	<p>The students will complete a Stream Restoration Project on Willow and McMeen Creek</p> <p>Complete career related learning experience required by the State of Oregon for graduation and present it to the Ochoco National Forest as well as the MDWC and Children's Forest of Central Oregon</p> <p>Create a log on the WWW/Facebook/Twitter to share their progress, pictures, and comments about their progress</p> <p>Possible interpretive signs at the restoration site, educational brochures or educational sessions conducted by the Youth Watershed Council members for a younger audience</p>		
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Project Category: Community Engagement (outreach and education)			
Project Title	Watershed Education Programming in Central Oregon	OWEB Grant #	
Responsible Parties	Coordinator/Executive Director	Priority	High
Project Description	In a Grant with EPA ~ Working through a local collaborative partnership with the Children's Forest of Central Oregon, Upper Deschutes Watershed Council and Crooked River Watershed Council, getting local students involved with stewardship projects and participating in a regional watershed summit where they present their projects to other local students	In Council Action Plan	Yes
Key Partners	Children Forest of Central Oregon, UDWC, CRWC, Madras Schools, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs		
Limiting Factor(s)	Staff capacity development, Lack of Knowledge, Knowledge Gaps - Lack of Information		
Original Date	2/26/2015	% Complete	5-30% - Conceptual/ Planning/ Submitting Grant application
Challenges	Getting the tribe to participate in the past has been a challenge  Staff Capacity  School curriculum to incorporate Natural Resource and Watershed lessons  Logistics with School Districts including transportation		
Opportunities	20+ Community Partners over the Tri-County area  Re-establishing the Council as a key partner in education and outreach activities in the Deschutes Basin  Fostering Madras Schools and the Confederated Tribes involvement in Watershed Restoration Activities  Opportunity to purchase needed monitoring materials		

Planned Deliverables	Working with 2 classes a year X 2 years		
	Regional Watershed Summit		
	Present projects and findings to other school students		

Project Category: Community Engagement (outreach and education)			
Project Title	Middle Deschutes Community Engagement	OWEB Grant #	
Responsible Parties	Coordinator/Executive Director	Priority	High
Project Description	Engage the community by inviting them to attend watershed tours on watershed projects. Hold workshops on Best Management Practices in the Watershed, but also identify workshops that will foster community ownership and knowledge of their watershed. Once the community understands watershed processes, the salmonid life cycle and habitat needs, water quality status and other factors that impact watershed health ~ they could potentially participate more in local watershed events and/or volunteer.	In Council Action Plan	Yes
Key Partners	JCSWCD, Jefferson County, Ochoco NF, National Grasslands, Madras Business Owners, City Officials		
Limiting Factor(s)	Staff capacity development, Board capacity development, Lack of Knowledge, Staff skill development, Training, Office infrastructure, Knowledge Gaps - Lack of Information		
Original Date	2/26/2015	% Complete	Ongoing council activity
Challenges	<p>Scheduling to gain the highest attendance can be a challenge</p> <p>Transportation</p> <p>Gaining the attention of the Community as to "why" they should care about their watershed enough for them to attend workshops and tours</p> <p>Recruiting volunteers</p> <p>Logistics</p>		

Opportunities	<p>Interested and very engaged board who can help engage the community</p> <p>Beautiful and interesting locations to hold tours both in Trout Creek and Willow Creek Watersheds</p> <p>Sense of Pride in the community can be fostered</p> <p>Some events can be turned into an annual event</p> <p>The historic vehicle hulks, trash, metal on BLM property approximately 2 miles south to the Railroad bridge can be cleaned up</p> <p>Possibility to foster a relationship with Deer Ridge Correctional Facility for volunteer work</p>		
Planned Deliverables	<p>Four Watershed Tours (2 each Willow Creek and Trout Creek)</p> <p>Four Workshop Opportunities that will engage the community and foster stakeholder involvement</p> <p>Council Blog or Website and other social media</p> <p>Electronic Newsletters</p> <p>Coordinate a Willow Creek (Canyon) Volunteer Day</p>		

Project Category: Organizational Development and Management			
Project Title	Council Development (Staff and Council Members)	OWEB Grant #	
Responsible Parties	Coordinator/Executive Director	Priority	High
Project Description	There is a need to continue recruitment efforts for the MDWC. Encourage all council members and staff to stay current on By-Laws, Council and Board and Staff Job Descriptions, participate in trainings, workshops and presentations. Encourage the Board, Staff and Council Members to learn about their watershed and to prevent burnout keep it FUN! Also, make sure Council and staff members are attending the numerous trainings throughout the State.	In Council Action Plan	No
Key Partners	MDWC Council Members, JCSWCD, OACD, NOWC, ODA		
Limiting Factor(s)	Board capacity development, Lack of Knowledge, Board skill development, Training, Office infrastructure, Knowledge Gaps - Lack of Information, Access to training		
Original Date	2/26/2015	% Complete	Ongoing council activity
Challenges	Limited time of council members and board members  Knowledge of the Watershed as a whole and challenges present.  Knowledge of on-going projects in the Watershed  Funding for training opportunities		
Opportunities	Strong Council support and participation  Chance to grow the organization  Chance to provide training via State and Local agencies to bring council members up to speed  Chances to provide council members with informative and entertaining speakers at Council Meetings  Chance to provide exceptional board direction to staff to ensure a strong, viable, worthwhile Council		

Planned Deliverables	<p>Outside training/year attended by at least one Member i.e. OACD Convention, Watershed Council Conventions</p> <p>Provide at least one in-house training activity per year based on Board Self Evaluations</p> <p>Provide staff training such as attendance to Connect, OACD Conventions, NOWC conventions, Watershed Coordinator functions as scheduled</p>		
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Project Category: Organizational Development and Management			
Project Title	Middle Deschutes WC Operations	OWEB Grant #	
Responsible Parties	Coordinator/Executive Director	Priority	High
Project Description	Perform tasks necessary to maintain MDWC operations. Implement tasks identified in the Work Plan which have been identified in the Action Plan and improve the Council capacity to implement both plans. Continue to collaborate for strong partnerships.	In Council Action Plan	Yes
Key Partners	JCSWCD, City of Madras, ODFW, USFW, Jefferson County, NRCS, USFS, Cities, Tribes		
Limiting Factor(s)	Staff capacity development, Board capacity development, Lack of Knowledge, Board skill development, Staff skill development, Office infrastructure, Knowledge Gaps - Lack of Information, Access to training		
Original Date	2/26/2015	% Complete	Ongoing council activity
Challenges	<p>Staff Capacity - currently no coordinator</p> <p>Training a new council and board</p> <p>Getting the new coordinator up to speed on the Work Plan, Action Plan and Council vision and mission.</p>		
Opportunities	<p>This council has a new fresh outlook and is working diligently towards a successful council. They continue to work diligently to educate the community on being invested in their watershed</p> <p>The council has solid strong partnerships established</p> <p>The council is invested in hiring a knowledgeable, hardworking coordinator to carry out the mission of the Council and has laid the foundation for them to step in on a good foot!</p>		

Planned Deliverables	<p>Annual Work Plans and Updates</p> <p>Annual Report</p> <p>Scheduling at least 6 Council meetings per year</p> <p>Evaluate Council funding sources and explore alternative sources of funds to improve council capacity and implementation of the Action Plan and Work Plan</p> <p>Strengthen existing partnerships by defining roles for the implementation of the Action Plan and seek new partnerships where there are gaps</p> <p>Foster partnerships that assist with the implementation of the Lower Deschutes River Focused Investment Partnership</p>		
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