

WILLAMETTE MAINSTEM COOPERATIVE

Friday, November 30, 2018
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Benton SWCD Office
456 SW Monroe Ave., Suite 110
Corvallis, OR 97333

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: **Laura Brown** (Benton SWCD), **Peter Kenagy** (Oregon Farm Bureau, local farmer, and Willamette River landowner), **America McMillan** (City of Corvallis Parks and Rec), **Kelly Warren** (Ducks Unlimited), **Jeff Baker** (Greenbelt Land Trust), **Chris Salazar and Collin McCandless** (Calapooia Watershed Council), **Matt Mellenthin** (Integrated Resource Management, Calapooia Watershed Council Board Member, Willamette River landowner), **Holly Crosson** (Benton SWCD), **Richard Dickinson** (Willamette Riverkeeper), **John Keogh** (local landowner and farmer), **Aubrey Cloud** (Ashcreek Forest Management), **Joe Deardorff** (City of Albany Talking Water Gardens), **Brad Withrow-Robinson** (OSU Extension, Forestry), **Emily Day** (City of Albany Parks and Rec. Dept.), **Heath Keirstead** (Benton SWCD), **Scott Youngblood** (OPRD via phone)

Review of 2018 Projects - Round Table Sharing

Peter K: Doing a lot of thinning and weed control along the river this summer.

Scott Y: Super busy, extended on whole river, learning new properties all the way up to the Columbia. Has a helper (new park ranger) now. New helper is doing cleaning. Weed work at Half Moon Bend, doing seeding and interplanting this winter, installed concrete pad so he can install a portable restroom there for the summer recreationists.

America M: Injected knotweed this summer. Knotweed is at Harrison Bridge on west side of river, patch about 10x20ft., floated down the river and found yellow flag iris in Willamette Park, dug it up.

Kelly W: Western Oregon regional biologist for Ducks Unlimited: priority area includes Willamette & North Pacific Coast. Will be doing a strategic plan for the NPC. It will be a 4-5 page flyer to partners and spell out goals and outcomes for the region. Trying to ensure people don't feel threatened. Will fill a restoration role. Hope to bring restoration expertise. Located in Corvallis, has a team of 9. Will talk about different funding sources including Ducks Unlimited. Reaching out to partners to find out projects and introduce suite of projects that are attractive to North American Wetlands Conservation Act NAWCA (focuses on wetlands and wet habitats). WRK, state parks and they have been working on state parks through a grant from NACA. Two weeks from now, MMT Within Our Reach. Everyone is there!

Jeff B: Horseshoe Lake- Scatter Bar Pond- Ludwigia treatments this summer (July and Sept.) July treatment not very effective, Sept treatment seemed more effective. Have some money to do additional treatments in next two years. Questions about treating, conditions are really good for Ludwigia, would need to remove the revetment to change conditions.

Chris S: Started with CWC October 10. Has not worked on projects on mainstem yet.

Colin M: Doing two main projects on mainstem- Truax and Bowers Rock- 40 acres of site prep (RCG, blackberry) didn't find Ludwigia in dead river. Bowers Rock- just east of Bryant Park, last summer and this summer treated 3-4 acres inside gravel pit, will continue treatment for next two years. 12 acres of Ludwigia will be treated for 5 years starting summer 2019.

Matt M: On his property, doing a planting, spraying invasive species to treat ivy and other invasives. Also works for IRM doing oak savannah release and log placement project, projects up and down Willamette Valley. On the board of CWC, supporting CWC restoration projects.

Holly C: Invited to participate in advisory group for Willamette River Initiative (MMT), they have funded \$15M of restoration along the Willamette, and sunsetting 2019. About 18 organizations represented. Developed a blueprint for Willamette River Network to replace WRI. Has a handout., hoping it will be really successful.

Richard D: Within the Corvallis to Albany reach, have been busy doing paddle and pull educational events, working on surveying large stretches of river and using Fulcrum to map the data and share with partners. Working with PSU to map Ludwigia and Nymphoides. Ash Creek- floodplain Forest, Mission Lake project, partnering with local landowners on Windsor Slough clogged with Ludwigia, Gail Ackerman 290 acres starting to work there, working with WAIN, hired Toni Pennington to create a large action plan for WAIN. WRK pulled 1700 pounds of junk/trash. City of Corvallis hauled away and disposed of the 1700 pounds of trash. Starting a River Guardians program in Corvallis if anyone is interested.

John K: 10 acres of farm is in formal restoration program. He grows organic vegetable seeds and orchards. Lots of handwork. Teasel, poison hemlock and contributed no seed to the weed seed bank. Can pull the whole hemlock plant if stem is big enough. Dead River- hasn't seen any Ludwigia there or in Colorado Lake, doesn't see anything coming in from Owl Creek. Rosario Franco's crew did the planting and initial site prep for the restoration (CREP funding).

Aubrey C: Organized a volunteer group focused mostly in Albany- Oxbow First Lake in Simpson, new project in Bowman Park, youth watershed councils, others involved in that project. A few stalks of knotweed popping up in Albany, he is starting to map and treat that. Wants to pursue more comprehensive control of that. Starting to focus on weedy trees in parks and take out hawthorn and holly. Through Ash Creek, City of Salem and others, they have identified waterways with knotweed popping up, educating people with mailing campaign, SWCD funds contractor to come in and control it, free to landowner. A few people have opted out because of aversion to chemicals. Successful model/approach, might be good model for

Albany non-public properties. Deborah Topp is willing to share about this. They sometimes spray, sometimes cut and spray stem. Discussion of methods: if you inject just below third node, in July or August, got good success rate, direct application, and it's just glyphosate. Scott has two injector guns and 300 needles if anyone wants to borrow them. America says use a 50% mixture. Could run into max label rate per acre with large patches. 10 years ago Matt M used injection- great for small patches, but not good for large patches, reach max label rate and labor intensive.

Joe D: Talking Water gardens manager- waste water cooling. Continued treatment of Ludwigia, down to spot spraying, 6-7 acres of nightshade, this 2nd year will be last large scale broadcast spray before replanting. How to replant deep water areas? (2-2.5 ft) Observing new introductions of Ludwigia in cells that didn't have it before. Might be coming from First Lake. Might treat if possible or look for grants to fund treatment. Simpson Lake is nearby. First through Fourth are the series. Peter K. says there is an awful lot of Ludwigia downstream, upstream from 4th Lake, and old alcove filled completely come solid with Ludwigia past 5 years. We don't know how much is coming from seed, is it moving by animals? Dr. Grewell has studied this and hexapetala is mostly what we have, spread mostly by fragments. Corps of Engineers experiment station has developed techniques for deep water planting. Holly will put Joe in touch with them. Turtles- Advancing Native Western Pond Turtle grant with ODFW. Doing photo points and photo-monitoring, did some trapping of red eared sliders. They have minimal western pond turtles. First lake has way more habitat and turtles. One more year of grant funds. Monarch butterfly waystation planting. Oregon master Gardeners are planting some massive bare root woody trees and shrubs in and around Talking Water Gardens. Including cottonwood plantings. Cutting down cottonwoods will create more turtle habitat. Shade is a secondary benefit. Cool for salmon. Colder is better.

Brad W-R: He covers three counties, lately that has not included much riparian stuff along the Willamette. Not much last year.

Emily D: Aubrey and Joe touched on a lot of the topics she was going to cover. For Simpson- doing interplanting with volunteers this spring, will be looking for areas to install basking structures, marking areas and having eagle scouts install them. Logs weighted down. Continuing work at Bowman, doing more spray treatments and working with restoration with volunteers. Doing Let's Pull Together event at Takena Landing. Pulling and treating ivy at Takena Landing along with treatments Matt mentioned on his property. Great Willamette Clean Up- sponsored by WRK, collaboration between many groups!! Put in at Hyak, took out at Bowman, got over 1000 pounds of trash. (Laura B. recommends that event to anyone. Benton SWCD did the Mary's river section and they got three shopping carts out.)

Review of 2018 Projects – WMC 2018 Activities Presentation

Laura Brown provided a short overview of the WMC for new attendees and a summary of 2018 WMC Activities-

Summary of 2018 Partner Activities along Corvallis to Albany reach of Willamette River (to be updated following WMC meeting)

May 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Takena Landing – Ivy control using volunteer pulls (Benton County CWMA, City of Albany Parks and Recreation and Public Works, Benton SWCD)
June 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 Workshop for aquatic weed ID and management (OSWB, Benton SWCD, Willamette Riverkeeper, PSU, and City of Eugene)
June – October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ludwigia and yellow floating heart surveys along Willamette River, Corvallis to Albany reach (OSWB, Benton SWCD, Willamette Riverkeeper, OPRD, and other Willamette Aquatic Invasive Network partners)
July 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• WMC Coordinator (Melissa Lemein) departs (Benton SWCD)
July – October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 Volunteer water primrose and yellow floating heart pulls along reach (OSWB, Benton SWCD, Willamette Riverkeeper, Calapooia Watershed Council, City of Albany Parks and Recreation, OPRD)
August 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New WMC Coordinator (Laura Brown) hired (Benton SWCD)
August – October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collins Bay – Fifth year of Ludwigia control treatments (OSWB, OWEB-WSIP, Benton SWCD)
August – October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Horseshoe Lake, Benton County – Surveys for yellow floating heart, but no yellow floating heart was found in 2018! (OSWB, Benton SWCD)
August – October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lower Kiger side channel - Third year of Ludwigia (herbicide) control treatments (OWEB-WSIP, Benton SWCD)
August – October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wapato Cove - Second year of Ludwigia treatments (OSWB, Benton SWCD)
August – October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scatter Bar Pond – First year of Ludwigia control treatments (OSWB, GLT, Benton SWCD)
August – October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Highway 20 and Takena Landing – Treatment of Ivy and Traveller’s Joy through herbicide (OWEB-WSIP, Benton SWCD, City of Albany Parks and Recreation)
August 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paddle Oregon - outreach and education about aquatic invasives and natives (Willamette Riverkeeper)
October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Great Willamette Clean Up – Mary’s River (on water) and Hyak to Bowman, (Mary’s River Watershed Council, Willamette Riverkeeper, Benton SWCD, City of Albany)

A few Highlights of 2018 WMC Activities

Outreach and Education Events: Laura provided some highlights and photos of the 2018 Aquatic Invasives Species River Workshop and Volunteer Paddle and pull events done in coordination with partners including City of Eugene, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Portland State University, Oregon State Parks, and Willamette Riverkeeper. The AIS workshop included information on how to ID invasives and

native look-alikes, and was held at Delta Ponds in June with City of Eugene. The WMC plans to host one in 2019, and it will be a workshop in summer with IRM and WRK. Volunteer paddle and Pulls great for surveying. We pulled small populations of Ludwigia this year. Generally go to places where people can see native plants, and better places for hand-pulling than for using chemicals. During the October event, we pulled 200 pounds of weeds, later transported to the dump in the back of Laura's Corolla.

WMC also participated in the 5th Annual Benton County Cooperative Weed Management Area's Let's Pull Together Event, which included three locations on the river: Takena Landing, Bowman Park, and Simpson Park with City of Albany. This event has lots of press and over 70 volunteers. WMC was represented at Takena Landing where they pulled ivy, herb Robert, and arum italicum with the City of Albany.

Ludwigia Control Treatments: Treated 23 acres of Ludwigia, down from over 300 acres last year. The decrease was due to the WMC no longer treating Stewart Slough. We weren't seeing good results at Stewart Slough, so in 2017 the WMC decided to drop that site. Sites treated this year were: Scatter Bar Pond, Wapato Cove, Lower Kiger Island, and Collins Bay for 5th year. Laura is applying for OSWB funds to treat Ludwigia at Collins Bay and Wapato Cove in 2019.

Yellow Floating Heart Control Treatments: Treatment of yellow floating heart (YFH) occurred at Horseshoe Lake in 2017. No reoccurrence of YFH at Horseshoe Lake in 2018. Used Imazamox with surfactant (Agridex) in 2017 (new technique). There is a little water column activity with Imazamox. Glyphosate was not getting translocated down. Matt M. is working with partners to try other methods than glyphosate on Ludwigia because glyphosate doesn't work in all cases.

Laura is applying for OSWB funds to treat YFH in 2019; homeowners found it in their detention pond this year and detention pond drains in to Horseshoe Lake. She will be communicating with their contractor about switching to the Imazamox method.

Large YFH population was found near Snag Boat Bend. Glenn Miller (ODA) found source of YFH into Willamette, adjacent to golf course, upper Willamette area. New chemical can only be applied by a state herbicide applicator.

We treated ivy at Takena Landing and along Hwy 20 in Matt M's neighborhood, using contractor (Diego Franco).

WMC Action Plan Updates

Addition of two priority sites (Tripp Island and Native Mussel Beds).

Tripp Island has native aquatic plants as well as Ludwigia and YFH. Hand pulled in 2017.

Native Mussel Beds is across from Michaels Landing and downstream a bit. This site has some Ludwigia and was hand-pulled in 2016. Ludwigia was not seen in 2017.

Both of these are important sites because of native plants and mussels. In the WMC action plan, adding priority sites is an ongoing activity. The mussels are western pearly shells. The sites are pretty small, no reason not to include (Peter K). All in favor of adding the two new sites. Sites will be added.

Knifer River/Farm Home complex was removed from Priority. Nothing was done there this year. There was a follow up treatment that was missed, so to be cautious, they pulled back and they had seen limited results from the one treatment. Matt and Melissa talked about that site, without long term management for that site, the resources are better expended somewhere else. Some permitting issues about documentation of permits and questions about what was needed. Questions about what monitoring meant (water quality versus plant photo). Knife River was worried about what it meant to document water quality, a relationship to explore own the road. Also Knife River might be in there soon extracting gravel.

Spring 2019 meeting Action Plan (2020-2025):

Spring 2019 WMC steering committee meeting to check progress, revisit goals, get feedback on timeframe to start working on next five year action plan. Late February would be best month to hold meeting. Laura will send an email in January to set next meeting. She will send out current action plan with addition of two new sites. Please look through the current plan and where you see WMC moving in future. Fun and beneficial process!

Kelly: unfamiliar with MMT dedication to WMC, how are we planning for best/worst scenario?

Laura: we are putting in a proposal for staff time for 2019-2021, ¼ time and supplementing with other grants. BSWCD is fully committed to continuing the effort, should get \$40K later this winter to cover small amount of salary for next two years, plus other grants, and BSWCD covering the rest.

Updates on WAIN (Willamette Aquatic Invasives Network)

Laura has attended one meeting since she started in August. It is a cooperative group sharing information and resources. Currently working on strategic action plan and a framework to address all EDRR species and new invaders. How to prioritize sites? Listed guiding questions. Protect the best. Currently reviewing data sources that will inform the prioritization process. How to break down the river: jurisdictions? Geomorphic? Trib to trib?

Richard: steering committee for WAIN meeting Jan 10, want to present draft version of action plan Jan 21 at WAIN meeting. Want to have this wrapped up spring 2019.

Holly: Need to address spread prevention as well as EDRR. Add to the slide. Need to set up survey schedule of priority sites, once priorities are established. One of the things that accounts for success is strong partnerships. Include presence of strong partnerships and collaborations in list of prioritization criteria.

Peter: Make sure things don't fall through the cracks, figure out how to keep things from falling through the cracks will be important. Also, are there signage and campaigns that exist and capitalizing on those?

Matt M: Vern Holm retired, replaced by Lucas Hunt from Rickreall WC and Polk SWCD. Lucas Hunt will be at the noxious weed symposium next week.

OWEB-Willamette Special Investment Partnership grant funds

Input and feedback on potential sites for 2019 priority invasive weed treatments (old man's beard, ivy (tree/aerial), and Ludwigia, false brome has been removed.

Collins Bay Treatment- parrot feather has been coming in since 2017. Treating parrot feather at Collins Bay in 2019 OSWB proposal. Lower flow area not flushing out, it is responding to treatment but not as well as the mouth side of the site. ODA is still excited about this site. Proposing 6th year of treatment at this site. They know it will take a lot of time. Last year parrot feather was hand-pulled, this year Imazamox for parrot feather and continued glyphosate for Ludwigia. Is it worth pulling parrot feather? Last year no permission to use anything but glyphosate and Agridex.

Wapato Cove Treatment- Wapato Cove integrated management- hand-pulling and spraying where Ludwigia is dense and there is no wapato. Struggling with timing of site. Water intake issues with landowner. Part of that was staff turnover. There were no consistent summer communications with landowner. For 2019, treat wapato cover using integrated method again. Even with hand-pulling (which was all that occurred in 2018), you can see good results. Matt says that control is not that high (<90%), and with hand-pulling, often popping up wapato as well.

Lower Kiger Alcove- This site looks like it is responding well. For next year grant, allocating funds to treat here again. Easy to treat when in conjunction with Wapato Cove, as it's right across the river from Wapato Cove.

Scatter Bar Pond- WMC won't treat again but GLT will treat moving forward. This year treated in August and again in late September. First treatment didn't do much- got top kill only, stuff underneath was not affected. Another issue- they pump water from river into the pond so water level is high, making it hard to treat. Access was better in September, water levels high in August. First treatment is volume reduction, and second treatment is effective because of biomass reduction after first treatment. If only doing one treatment, do it late, and do full vertical column and max label rate. In-water work has to stop October 15. Good site for biocontrol release trials. Brenda Grewell has been working on biocontrol. Getting close.

What is the longer-term outlook on the continued treatment of Ludwigia? Continuous spot spraying on the Willamette in perpetuity? Until we have a biocontrol that suppresses it, will always need annual or biannual maintenance. City of Eugene and Delta Ponds complex did heavy herbicide use for the first two years, now Friends of Delta Ponds hand pull with volunteers and spot spraying along shore. More luck in gravel ponds than in oxbows with treatment. Luckiamute State Natural Area populations smaller to start with. Having more tools in the toolbox is helpful (using imazamox, trying different timing, working with Richard, need to get creative with herbicides- using triclopyr 3A which doesn't impact wapato, then treat again once wapato senesces).

Willamette Strategic Investment Partnership WSIP is extended thru Dec 2019. Need to try to spend it all out this summer. Priority weed species: Ludwigia (\$14K), Ivy (\$6k) and Clematis vitalba. \$4k unallocated (tentatively reallocated).

No ODA funding for new Ludwigia sites until WAIN action plan is finalized.

How to spend additional \$5K for Ludwigia and ~\$7000 unallocated?

More expensive at Collins Bay in 2018 and 19 than in 2017 because we were borrowing equipment at first. Hand-pulling at Wapato Cove could be retired now- it is labor intensive. Emily would like to treat gravel bars you can see from the bridge along Takena Landing along the dock 1.5 acres. Emily could probably get City of Albany to take on treatment in future years.

Peter prefers focusing on aerial ivy, expand the area, and pressure the city to take on ivy treatment. Seeds are moved by birds. Until the aerial ivy is dealt with, it will get worse. Better chance of maintaining aerial ivy out of trees and that will save the riparian forests. Not sure if we will ever get the Ludwigia.

Jeff Baker: curious what it costs per day to use 6 or 8 person crews. Not a lot of work if it's 2-4 days of work we are talking about. IRM is about \$2500/day for a crew of six. Kelly talked about staff turnover, landowner communications and using that to fund that because those relationships make the work possible.

~\$4700 for 2017 (IRM) at Collins Bay (borrowing equipment)

~\$6329 for 2018 (IRM) at Collins Bay (using own equipment)

Aerial ivy is a good containment strategy- if we take on the initial cost of getting that done, how to get the landowners to continue ivy management. Landowners that Laura has met all seem invested in the effort. That would be a worthwhile education effort. Matt can take care of the landowners in the Takena to Hyak stretch.

Peter: there are probably landowners who would be willing to chip in part of the cost: cost-share. Landowners with significant infestations, if you can engage a crew and offer the crew at a discounted rate you could leverage the money and get more done.

City Bridges newsletter could do a focus on ivy. City of Albany could have a long-term ivy eradication program, bulk of which is public education.

John K likes the cost share idea and crew assistance for small jobs. Neighbor with ivy problem and John inherits the problem. John would be willing to chip in on cost. It would be a gateway for landowners for learning about other less obvious invasives. We are doing a lot of other upland restorations, need to hit the ivy seed source to protect investments.

Matt M: two precautions with landowners- make sure they aren't doing spring applications and also, some are using the wrong chemicals like crossbow and blackberry.

Laura summarizes that we could move the \$4000 to ivy and she likes the cost share and contract crew. Outreach could be funded through other outlets. Expanding on Hwy 20 ivy effort is the consensus. If EDRR thing shows up (like a big YFH population) and you need money to do it, that would trump the ivy project)

For remaining \$5K left for Ludwigia travel, what about Tadena Landing gravel bar? That site might not be big enough, could you put it with something else? Go both ways on the river?

We cannot treat First and Second Lakes because it is on Linn County side. BSWCD has MOU with Linn SWCD to plan and work with Linn SWCD on other side of the river. It has to be approved by Linn SWCD Board. Scatter Bar Pond and Wapato Cove are both on Linn County side.

Another option: Upstream of Tadena Landing, treatment of ivy has happened there before. The Looney place- Peter mentioned it could make sense to do this in conjunction with Tadena Landing gravel bar. Matt said it's not quite worth spending a little money on a site that won't have support in the future (Looney place). Is it better to do spray and replant with natives in a smaller area? What to replant on a gravel bar? Weedy annuals...A full blown day long ivy workshop. Keep the \$5000 as a safety net for existing projects.

Visions for the future

Future sites

Species to focus on

Knotweed is becoming more of a problem

Workshops for knotweed awareness better to get contractors to treat

Grant funding availability

Partnering with BEF and Ducks Unlimited for funding. BEF changes on their focus. Kathleen Guillozet is involved in the WMC. Todd Reeves has vision for Willamette future, money trickling down for very specific projects- projects focused around water.

Willamette River Initiative Blueprint.

Holly shared advisory group list and blueprint summary. In 2017, advisory group convened by MMT. Meyer remains committed and BEF. The advisory group met half a dozen times. Led by a facilitator and very intense and decision-oriented. Many side groups meeting about specific topics. Meyer has been an incredible partner and funder. A couple million \$ allocated to transition. Asked for ideas and thoughts from partners.

WRN goals: 1-healthy Willamette River system, 2- diverse and engaged river leadership, 3- communities and rivers thrive together.

New partners include utilities coming to the table. Funding will be one of the bigger challenges. Many funding strategies have been discussed. Visit the website for more information. Talks at Within Our Reach about WRN, good place to find out more. This will be highly adaptive management- things will change as the process develops. This is a guide more than a set plan. Advisory Group will continue to be engaged, board members chosen, staff will be added. There is some funding for staff initially. Have been discussing a host organization or other fiscal sponsorship?

Thanks to everyone for participating and for your invaluable feedback!

Budget Summary for Open and Pending Grants Tables (as of 11/30/2018)

Open:

Grantor, Program and Duration	Project Name	Award Amount	Budget spent as of 10/31/2018	Budget Remaining as of 10/31/2018	Notes
OWEB-Willamette Special Investment Partnership Feb. 2015 thru Dec. 2018	Willamette Mainstem Cooperative Restoration, Phase I	\$221,643	\$183,791	\$37,852	
MMT-WRI Basin-Wide Impact 2016-2018 July 2016 through June 2018 Extended and ongoing	Willamette Mainstem Cooperative Restoration, Phase II	\$90,031	\$51,809	\$38,191	remaining funds will be expended this winter
ODA - Oregon State Weed Board 2018 Feb 2018 thru July 2019	Willamette River Aquatic Weed Management Phase 5	\$19,232	\$15,052	\$4,180	Remaining for practitioner workshop in June 2019
Totals		\$330,906	\$391,996	\$80,223	

Pending:

Grantor, Program and Duration	Project Name	Award Amount	Notes
MMT-WRI Basin-Wide Impact 2018-2020	Willamette Mainstem Cooperative Restoration, Phase III	\$40,000	Application to be submitted in December 2018
ODA - Oregon State Weed Board 2019 Feb 2019 thru Feb 2020	Willamette River Aquatic Weed Management Phase 5	\$23,000	Application to be submitted in December 2018
Totals		\$393,906	