



HOOD RIVER SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Long Range Business Plan: 2015-2020

Introduction

This business plan has been developed for the Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), the Hood River field office of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the Hood River Watershed Group (HRWG). The plan provides a summary of each organization's structure, identifies key natural resource issues and priorities, and provides an overview of the services, programs, and assistance available to customers. It was originally adopted by the Board of the Hood River SWCD in July 2010. This update to the 2010 plan was adopted by the Board on May 7, 2015.

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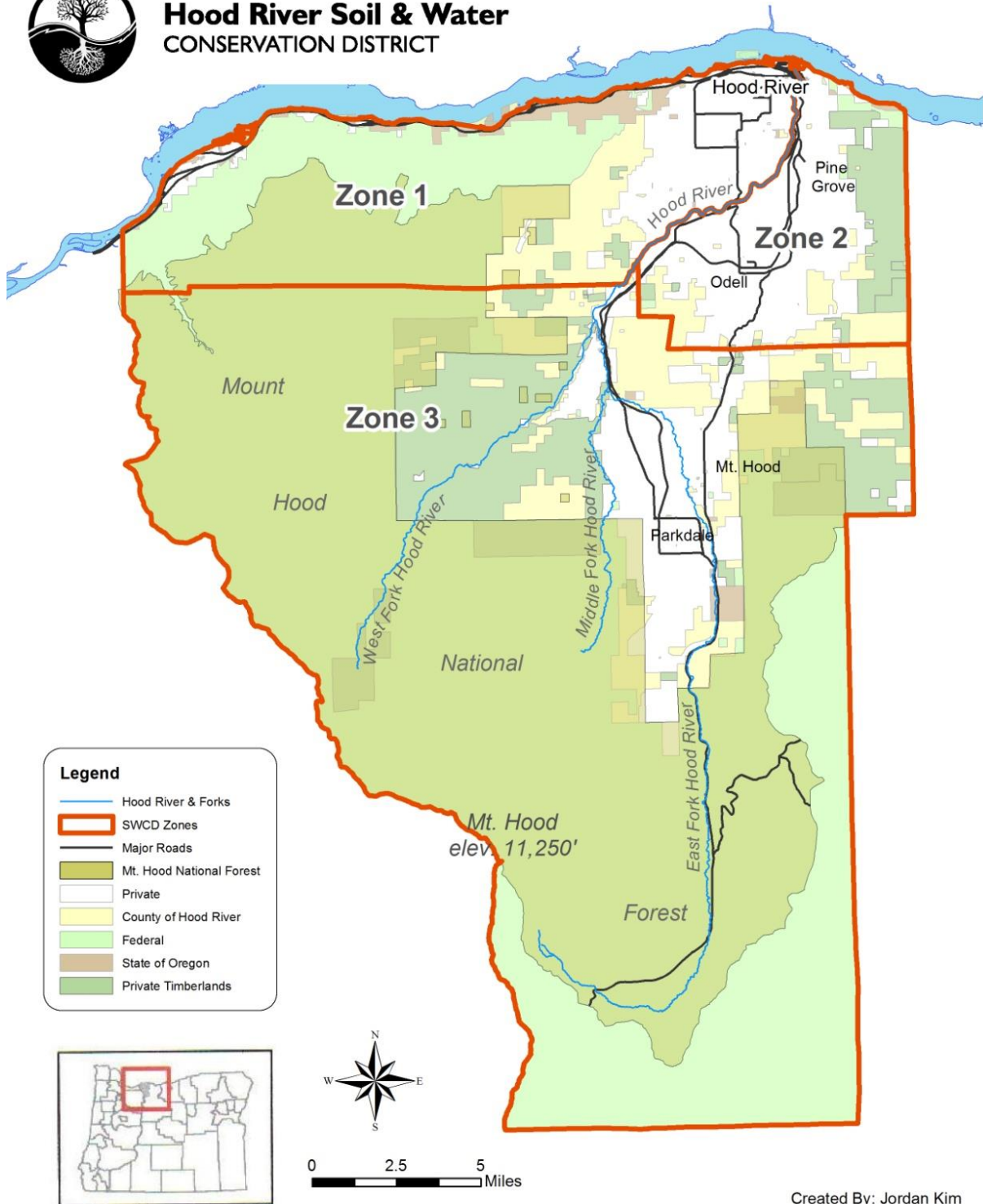
This five-year, long-range plan is used as a guidance document for operations management, recruitment of new partners, and as a basis for developing annual work plans and requests for support and funding. It is also used to provide information to county government, state funding agencies, and various partners that currently support conservation programs in Hood River County. The plan was prepared by the Hood River SWCD in consultation with NRCS and the HRWG.

The SWCD encourages public participation in its meetings, activities and business. The SWCD holds its regular monthly board meeting, which is open to the public, on the first Thursday of each month at the OSU Extension office, located at 2990 Experiment Station Rd., Hood River, Oregon, 97031.

Meetings begin at 3 PM during the months of November through March. From April to July, the meetings begin at 4 PM. From August to October, the meetings begin at 7 PM. Meetings usually last about two hours. People may contact the SWCD at the address above to be placed on its mailing list.



Hood River Soil & Water CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Who We Are and What We Do

The Hood River SWCD is one of 45 conservation districts in Oregon. Conservation districts are defined by the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) as political subdivisions of state government. The SWCD is not a state agency; rather it is classified as a municipal corporation, a form of local government, which is required to follow many of the same laws that govern state agencies. It is specifically governed by ORS 568.210 through 568.890. In addition, it is subject to, but not limited to, the conditions of several statutes and administrative rules listed in Appendix “A”.

Vision for the Area

The vision of the Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District is a healthy, sustainable environment supporting a viable community.

Mission for the District

The mission of the Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District is to provide educational, technical and financial assistance to our community for the protection, conservation and restoration of natural resources.

The District will:

- Assess watershed conditions, identify local problems and develop local solutions,
- Provide technical assistance to landowners and managers,
- Increase the public’s knowledge of and involvement in conservation issues and solutions, and
- Work with any and all partners to protect soil and water.

Vision Statement for the District

The vision of the Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District is to be an organization that:

- Is recognized as the key provider of conservation services,
- Is a critical partner in educating the public, individuals and groups about natural resource issues and solutions,
- Is approachable, knowledgeable and respected; a sought-after consultant to individuals and groups on implementing conservation practices,
- Has sufficient personnel who are trained and equipped to handle the workload,
- Has a strong agricultural component,
- Identifies resource concerns and facilitates solutions to them,
- Accesses various funding sources,
- Assists planning of new developments, with an eye to preventing resource problems down the line,
- Is a pragmatic local voice for federal and state programs, and
- Works cooperatively with landowners, stakeholders, and other agencies to get results.

Core Values

We value:

- A voluntary, collaborative, local, non-regulatory approach to solving problems,
- The importance of a healthy environment to the economy of our area,
- Open space and other environmental benefits provided by agriculture and forest landowners,
- Respect for the property rights, confidentiality, decisions and experience of all landowners/clients,
- Community partnerships and the resources/expertise made available through these collaborative relationships,
- Education as a means to promote environmental stewardship,
- Helpful, courteous, prompt customer service,
- Communication with the public and within the office,
- Well-trained staff committed to leadership and professionalism,
- Conservation as a part of our daily operation, and
- Fiscal responsibility with public funds.

History

The Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District was incorporated on Sept. 30, 1953. The boundaries of the SWCD include all of the lands within the legal boundaries of Hood River County (see district map on page 2). The District initiated the Hood River Watershed Group in December 1993, and continues to provide sponsorship, staff and fiscal oversight to that watershed council. The Hood River Watershed Group was authorized by the Hood River County Board of Commissioners on March 4, 1996 as the official watershed council for Hood River County.

Significant Accomplishments

The Hood River SWCD and the Hood River Watershed Group work with landowners and other partners to implement programs and projects that improve the health of the Hood River watershed. Our overarching goals are to provide technical service, assist partners with delivery of their programs, and administer our operations in a fiscally sound and efficient way.

We want to acknowledge the fact that our partners deserve significant recognition and credit for implementing many of these projects. The Hood River SWCD and HRWG are often one of many partners working to complete a project. We may assist project proponents with assessment and planning, project development and implementation, fundraising, community engagement, reporting and monitoring. **Those projects that were implemented solely or primarily by the Hood River SWCD or HRWG are in bold.**

Over \$12.2 million was spent on projects between 2010 and 2015. Significant accomplishments include:

- Removal of Powerdale Dam and establishment of a conservation easement on 400 acres
- Installation of 6.5 miles of irrigation pipeline, resulting in 3.3 cfs left instream
- Elimination of two irrigation diversions and upgrade of a third diversion which has a new fish ladder and a requirement that 15 cfs to be left in the bypass reach while optimal bypass flows are studied
- Over five miles of stream/floodplain enhanced with 2,145 logs, creating 66 log jam structures
- **Two large noxious weed projects to survey and control Early Detection, Rapid Response weeds**
- **Flow monitoring study to evaluate efficacy of irrigation efficiency upgrades**
- **Irrigation system upgrades on 287 acres**
- Over 6 acres of riparian buffer planted and 1,600 feet of riparian fence erected
- **Economic evaluation and design for the decommissioning of the Odell Creek dam**
- **Forest collaborative group research and recommendations for three Forest Service planning areas**
- **2014 Watershed Action Plan update**
- Hood River water basin study

Our sister agency at the federal level, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) completed the Conservation Security Program, which allocated \$12 million to Hood River County land managers over the past ten years through 100 contracts. Practices implemented over the past five years include irrigation water management, micro-sprinkler systems, mulching and nutrient management. Two Conservation Implementation Strategies were utilized to focus EQIP funding on irrigation upgrades on steep ground and air quality.

Sources of funding and purposes for which the funds were used during the past five years include:

Funding Source or Program	Natural Resource Issue/Grant Use
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)	Watershed restoration projects Watershed council support
Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)	Water quality projects
Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)	Technical assistance Administration Program grants
Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Res.	Watershed council support Water quality monitoring
Local Irrigation Districts	Watershed council support
US Bureau of Reclamation	Planning/outreach grant
US Forest Service	Watershed restoration projects

Natural Resources Conservation Service	Technical assistance
Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)	Planning grants
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)	Watershed restoration projects
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)	Weed survey, capacity building, outreach projects
Oregon State Weed Board (OSWB)	Weed abatement projects
SOLVE	Clean up, enhancement projects

Partners

The SWCD works closely and maintains relationships with many conservation partners in order to complete its mission. These partnerships are formalized by various means, including Memorandums of Agreement and/or Understanding, Intergovernmental Agreements, and informal agreements. Current partners include:

- Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area (CGCWMA)
- Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers (CGFG)
- Columbia Land Trust (CLT)
- Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation (CTWS)
- Dee Irrigation District (DID)
- East Fork Irrigation District (EFID)
- Farmers Irrigation District (FID)
- Hood River County (HRC)
- Hood River Valley Parks & Recreation District (HRVPRD)
- Mid-Columbia Agricultural Research & Extension Center (MCAREC)
- Middle Fork Irrigation District (MFID)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Oregon Dept. of Agriculture (ODA)
- Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW)
- Oregon Dept. of Forestry (ODF)
- Oregon Dept. of Transportation (ODOT)
- Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept. (OPRD)
- Oregon Water Resources Dept. (OWRD)
- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)
- US Bureau of Reclamation (USBOR)
- US Forest Service (USFS)

Roles and Responsibilities

The Hood River SWCD office houses staff for the SWCD, the HRWG, and until early 2015, the NRCS. ADA compliance requirements necessitated that the NRCS staff move, which they did to the US Forest Service Hood River Ranger District office in Mt. Hood. While we are committed to excellent customer service across the board, our roles and responsibilities vary between the three entities. They are:

- SWCD – planning, technical assistance and grant-writing to individuals and groups, education and outreach, conservation and project planning, Local Management Agency for state SB1010 program.
- HRWG – monthly educational forums, technical and grant-writing assistance for member projects, project development and implementation, education and outreach.
- NRCS – technical assistance, financial assistance to individual agricultural landowners.



**Hood River
Soil & Water**
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

SWCD Directors

The Hood River SWCD district board consists of five unpaid directors. They are elected by the public at the November general election, which is held in even-numbered years. Three of the five director positions are classified as zone positions, and must meet the zone requirements provided by ORS 568.560. To qualify as a zone director, a person must own or manage 10 or more acres of land within the zone, or meet requirements in lieu of land ownership/management, and be a registered voter. The additional two director positions are considered *at-large* positions. To qualify as an at-large position, a person must live within the boundaries of the Hood River SWCD and be a registered voter. For more information on board position requirements, refer to ORS 568.560, or talk with a Hood River SWCD director or staff member.

Since 2008, the Hood River SWCD has had associate directors. Associate directors are community members officially appointed by the board to serve as advisors and representatives to the district and from the district to other groups. The position offers a way to educate potential new directors, broaden community input to the district and expand its programs. Associate directors do not vote on board decisions but augment the board's knowledge and experience and assist with district programs. Associate directors serve one year terms and may be re-appointed.

Expectations of Hood River SWCD Directors: (policy approved Jan. 13, 2004)

An individual board member exercises the authority and responsibility of his or her position when the board is in legal session only. A board member has the authority to act in the name of the board only when authorized by a specific board action.

Individual board members are expected to:

- Attend and actively participate in all board meetings,
- Come to meetings prepared,
- Carry out committee responsibilities,
- Keep abreast of local conservation issues,
- Promote the district's work to local landowners, agencies and organizations,
- Communicate with legislators and other decision makers regarding the district's program, funding needs, and accomplishments,
- Keep the district's vision and mission in focus,

- Work effectively with district staff and cooperating agencies,
- Be knowledgeable about laws governing board operations such as budget, audit, public meetings, and contracting laws, and
- Report to the public on the district's programs and accomplishments.

Board members are encouraged to:

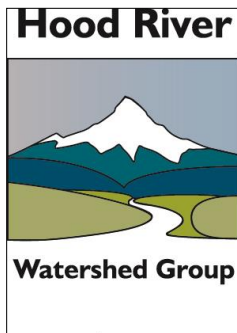
- Attend area and state meetings of the state association when possible,
- Participate in training opportunities,
- Recruit new directors and associate directors, and
- Seek new partners to implement the SWCD's conservation efforts.

Expectations of the Hood River SWCD Board:

The Board is expected to:

- Oversee employment and supervision of such staff as the district needs and can afford to conduct the business of the district,
- Establish policies and procedures for the district,
- Authorize official actions of the district,
- Review all financial claims against the district and authorize payment,
- Conduct an annual review of district financial records,
- Comply with all state and federal statutes and rules relating to the district operations,
- Identify local natural resource issues and develop annual and long-range plans to address those needs,
- Ensure the board's policies and activities are consistent with the policies of the Oregon Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Division and the Oregon Soil and Water Conservation Commission,
- Conduct periodic "self-evaluation" of the board's progress toward accomplishing its mission and work plans, and
- Implement district programs effectively.

In addition to the responsibilities listed above, the directors, as a board, have legal powers under ORS 568.550. See Appendix "B" for a description.



Hood River Watershed Group

The Watershed Group is neither a government agency nor an environmental organization. It is a local voluntary forum of landowners; irrigation and water districts; fruit growers; sport fishers; businesses; and state, federal, local, and tribal agencies interested in working cooperatively to address the goals of watershed protection and enhancement, and sustainable natural resource use. One of many "watershed councils" in Oregon, the HRWG formed in 1993 and is recognized by the County Board of

Commissioners by Ordinance No. 204. The Watershed Group is part of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds, a statewide strategy to address endangered species and

Clean Water Act concerns with locally-developed solutions. The Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District is the fiscal and employment sponsor of the Watershed Group. Funding comes from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, irrigation districts, and the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation. The HRWG utilizes a double group consensus process to make decisions.

The mission of the Hood River Watershed Group is to sustain and improve the Hood River Watershed through education, cooperation and stewardship.

Membership in the HRWG is open to anyone interested in its purpose or the Hood River watershed. HRWG members in attendance at meetings function as the governing body of the organization. Fiscal and work plan oversight are provided by a nine-member operations committee composed of 9 representatives from CTWS, the irrigation districts, the SWCD, agriculture, recreation, forestry, natural resources and the HRWG Chair.

All individuals, groups, or agencies interested in Hood River natural resources are encouraged to attend meetings. Meetings are generally held monthly, from 6 to 8 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday each month at the OSU Extension Office, 2990 Experiment Station Road, Hood River. No meetings are held in August and December. Mailing address is 3007 Experiment Station Drive, Hood River, OR 97031. Please contact the Watershed Coordinator, 541-386-6063; or cindy@hoodriverswcd.org, for further information.



USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service

In response to the “Dust Bowl” of the 1930s, the federal government created the USDA Soil Conservation Service (SCS) in 1935 to develop and implement soil erosion control programs. The SCS was one of several federal agencies in the US Dept. of Agriculture created to address rural resource issues. The others were the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), the Farmers Home Administration (FHA), and Rural Development. In 1994, to more accurately reflect the mission, the SCS name was changed to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). At the same time, ASCS and FHA consolidated to become the USDA Farm Services Agency (FSA). Prior to the 1996 federal Farm Bill, FSA provided the funding for conservation improvements, while NRCS provided the technical and design assistance. The 1996 Farm Bill altered that structure somewhat. NRCS now provides funding for a number of conservation programs, while FSA continues to provide crop disaster assistance. At this time, NRCS is authorized to provide planning, technical, and financial assistance to the public for the purpose of conserving and developing natural resources.

Planning Process and Partners

This business plan was developed over the course of several years, originally adopted in 2010, and updated in 2015. The basis for the plan is the Hood River Watershed Assessment (1999) and the Hood River Watershed Action Plan (2014), both prepared by the Hood River Watershed Coordinator, with assistance from the HRWG. These two documents lay out the natural resource concerns that are the basis for the SWCD's and HRWG's work plans.

Other documents utilized to develop the list of resource concerns were:

- Hood River Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan and Rules (2014)
- Hood River County Water Conservation Strategy (2014)
- Hood River Basin Aquatic Habitat Restoration Strategy (2006)
- Hood River Subbasin Plan (2004)
- Western Hood Subbasin Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) (2001)

Resource Concerns

Natural Resource Concerns:

Water quality:

- Water temperature exceeds state standards in a number of stream reaches.
- Elevated nitrogen and phosphorus levels have been found in a number of small tributaries.
- Bacteria levels are excessive in several small tributaries.
- Pesticide levels exceed standards at several sites.
- Detections of pesticides and other chemicals for which no standards exist
- The biological effects of some individual chemicals and the synergistic effects of multiple chemicals are unknown.
- Elevated levels of some metals have been detected in some stream reaches, the source of which is unknown but could be natural.
- Glacial sediment is transported by irrigation ditches to non-glacial streams.
- Sediment from human activities (roads, irrigation, under-sized culverts, off-road vehicles) has degraded aquatic habitat.

Stream flow & hydrology:

- Summer/fall flows constrain aquatic life in several streams (East, West & Middle Forks of the Hood River, Dog River, and mainstem Hood River) due to irrigation, hydropower and municipal water diversions.
- Loss of floodplains due to development exacerbate "rain on snow" flooding events and reduce aquatic habitat.
- Receding glaciers and other effects of climate change are changing hydrologic conditions.



Historic dams, like this one on Odell Creek, are potential migration barriers to native fish.

Fish populations and habitat:

- Native fish populations have declined compared to historic conditions, prompting ESA listings.
- Aquatic habitat (pool area, pool frequency and gravel availability) is below desirable levels, and large, woody debris channel complexity is reduced compared to historic conditions.
- Fish migration barriers (culverts, dams, diversions) and inadequate fish screens negatively impact fish populations.

Riparian & wetland conditions:

- Inadequate healthy riparian vegetation to protect waterways and moderate solar radiation
- Inadequate large, woody debris recruitment potential to sustain aquatic life
- Reduced habitat and increased flood damage from streams that have been channelized and cut off from historic floodplains
- Confined/restricted streams and habitat limitations due to a number of low, short bridges
- Habitat degradation caused by water recreation and other human activities
- Acres of wetlands are reduced compared to historic conditions

Upland conditions/other natural resource concerns:

- Impervious surfaces and piped/ditched stormwater runoff exacerbate flooding
- Noxious weeds are out-competing native and cultivated plants
- Percentage of forest canopy cover is low compared to historical levels exacerbating flooding and impacting streams, groundwater recharge, wildlife and other resources
- Upland wildlife habitat and travel corridors are increasingly impacted by development (housing and roads) and recreational activities (motorized and non-motorized trail development and use).
- Conflicts between wildlife and land managers occur when wildlife move into, and negatively impact, managed lands.
- Diseased, over-stocked forests as a result of suppression of natural wildfire regimes and/or lack of forest management
- Degraded air quality from frost protection practices, burning and other human activities
- Unmanaged backyard fruit trees host pests of commercial orchard crops, compromising the use of environmentally-mindful pest management practices
- Increased potential for forest fires due to chronic fuel loading exacerbated by development in the urban/forest interface
- Soil erosion and other pollution due to poor pasture/livestock management or other human activities
- Reduced quality native and managed plant communities due to poor livestock/pasture management or other human activities

Operational Resource Concerns:

- Data gaps – fish passage barriers, wetland inventory, floodplain mapping, terrestrial species inventory, groundwater mapping, water pollution (pesticides, nutrients, bacteria) sources, updated watershed assessment
- Some partnering agencies are understaffed.
- Lack of, or management of, irrigation water storage is problematic for some irrigation districts.
- Small staff limits amount of work that can be accomplished.
- Office space is limited and leased short-term.
- Lack of district vehicle(s)

Fiscal Resource Concerns:

- Conservation investments are not a priority for landowners with other, more pressing financial needs.
- Some resource concerns (i.e. noxious weeds or upland wildlife corridors) have reduced funding due to fisheries-focused watershed restoration priorities.
- Reliance on “soft” sources of state funding makes long-term budgeting and planning difficult and leaves the district vulnerable to state budget shortfalls.

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: *Provide technical assistance such as assessment and planning, project development and implementation, education and outreach, and monitoring to conserve natural resources and improve the health of the Hood River watershed.*

Assessment and Planning Objectives:

- Provide on-site, office, and phone/email consultations with landowners and operators seeking assistance with natural resource problems.
- Provide technical assistance to County Planning and other agencies on natural resource issues.
- Provide technical assistance to assess County and irrigation district water resources and conservation opportunities.
- Continue assessment, outreach and technical assistance efforts in ODA Focus Areas.
- Complete the Hood River Basin Water Conservation Strategy.
- Manage the OWEB grant for MFID temperature modeling study.
- Manage the OWRD grant for EFID conservation feasibility study.
- Manage the OWRD grant for FID storage expansion feasibility study.
- Facilitate the Hood River Collaborative Stewardship Crew to provide recommendations to the USFS on treatments in USFS planning areas on the Mt. Hood National Forest.
- Update the HRWG Watershed Action Plan in 2018.



Restoration efforts like this large wood placement project enhance stream function and improve habitat for salmon, steelhead, and resident fish.

Project development and implementation objectives:

- Provide technical and financial support for the installation of improved irrigation systems on 300 acres.
- Provide in-depth technical support to 30 growers for Irrigation Water Management.
- Develop two Conservation Implementation Strategies (CIS) for irrigation efficiency upgrades.
- Provide technical and financial assistance to plant five acres of agricultural riparian buffers.
- Provide technical and financial support to install one manure management facility.
- Provide technical and financial support to install riparian fence on 200 feet of stream.
- Conduct the SWCD annual plant sale to provide a source of inexpensive native plants.
- Provide technical and financial assistance to implement noxious weed abatement.
- Secure funding for and implement the Odell Creek Dam Removal Project.
- Provide technical assistance to implement Evans Creek Restoration and Culvert Replacement at Hutson Dr.
- Assist with funding acquisition for irrigation district delivery and distribution piping projects.
- Assist with funding acquisition, project planning, implementation and fiscal administration of West Fork Hood River large wood and culvert upgrade projects.
- Assist with funding acquisition, fiscal administration, and project implementation for Powerdale Corridor riparian restoration projects.
- Secure funding for, and implement other restoration projects listed in the 2014 Hood River Watershed Action Plan.
- Recruit volunteers for HRWG member projects such as fish salvage, riparian planting and noxious weed removal.

Education and outreach objectives:

- Conduct outreach via: quarterly eNewsletters; annual report; newspaper articles; workshops; tours; county fair display; radio shows; presentations to the County Commissioners, students and other interested groups; and distribution of the Rural Living Handbook and other written materials.
- Maintain and regularly update the district website.
- Conduct outreach through HRWG educational projects: educational presentations at regular HRWG meetings, HRWG Field Series, and Indian Creek Stewards.
- Develop a Backyard Habitat Program for urban residents.

Monitoring objectives:

- Conduct monitoring for HRWG and member water quality and habitat improvement projects: EFID/Christopher Ditch turbidity/flow, MFID temperature, FID mainstem temperature, and others as needed.
- Conduct pesticide monitoring in area streams to assist DEQ and CTWS with the Hood River Pesticide Stewardship Partnership (PSP).
- Monitor and report Early Detection and Rapid Response invasive weeds to state databases and weed control agencies.
- Conduct groundwater monitoring to support update and calibration of Hood River Basin groundwater model.
- Maintain database of water quality monitoring results in basin.



Staff will continue to monitor area streams for a variety of water quality parameters.

Goal 2: *Enhance delivery of partners' programs to improve watershed health.*

Assistance includes planning, implementation, monitoring, financial, and educational support, as appropriate.

Objectives:

- Manage the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Small Grant program in Hood River.
- Act as Local Management Agency for the Hood River Agricultural Water Quality Management Area, facilitate ODA's biennial reviews of the Hood River Area Plan, and support ODA in their compliance implementation efforts.
- Promote and facilitate NRCS programs.
- Support the Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area programs and operations.
- Participate on the Hood River County Weed and Pest Control Board.
- Assist with CTWS programs: project monitoring; fish population and habitat monitoring; and Salmon, Streams, and Science in the Classroom.
- Provide assistance to OSU Mid-Columbia Agricultural Research and Extension Center.
- Support the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts.
- Support the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils.

Goal 3: *Administer District and Hood River Watershed Group operations in a fiscally-sound, efficient, and professional manner that supports work to improve watershed health.*

Objectives:

- Conduct productive monthly meetings with an emphasis on communication and partnering.
- Maintain the office and its systems including computers, records, and supplies so work is accomplished efficiently.

- Stay abreast of new technologies to improve office operations, including website and other social media.
- Support professional staff through hiring, communication, training, planning, tracking, supervision and evaluation.
- Maintain sound accounting practices and fiscal management via good accounting records/tracking sheets, annual budget, and financial review and/or audit by municipal auditor.
- Manage contracts and grants so that reporting requirements can be met in a timely and professional manner.
- Produce an annual plan of work, produce and distribute an annual report, and update the long-range business plan, as needed.
- Build capacity in both the District and the Watershed Group through operational improvements.
- Research local tax base and other options for securing base operational funding.

Appendix A.

Statutes and Administrative Rules

The District is specifically governed by Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 568.210 through 568.890. In addition, the District is subject, but not limited to, the conditions of several statutes and administrative rules as follows:

- ORS 568.900 through 568.933 (Agricultural Water Quality Management)
- ORS 561.395 (Soil and Water Conservation Commission)
- ORS 561.400 (Natural Resources Division)
- ORS 44.320 (Oath of Office)
- Oregon Constitution, Article XV, Section 3 (Oath of Office)
- ORS 190.003 through 190.110 (Intergovernmental Cooperation)
- ORS 192.001 (Public Records Policy)
- ORS 192.005 through 192.190 (Custody and Maintenance of Records)
- ORS 192.310 (Records and Reports)
- ORS 192.410 (Inspection of Public Records)
- ORS 192.610 through 192.710 (Public Meetings)
- ORS 198.010 through 198.955 (Special Districts)
- ORS 198.330 through 198.365 (Dissolution of Inactive Districts)
- ORS 198.410 through 192.440 (Recall)
- ORS 240.379 through 240.394 (Employment of Persons With Severe Disabilities)
- Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Equal Opportunity Employment/Sexual Harassment/Discrimination) (federal)
- Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (Hiring Persons With Disabilities) (federal)
- ORS 244.010 through 244.400 (Conflict of Interest)
- ORS 247.035 (Residency)
- ORS 294.305 through 294.565 (Local Budget) (*Required of district with a tax levy*)
- ORS 297.005 through 297.712 (Contracting)
- ORS 297.405 through 297.485 (Municipal Audits)
- ORS 542.750 (Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention)
- ORS 659.010 through 659.990 (Employment Practices)
- ORS 659.405 (State Policy/Employment of Disabled Persons)
- OAR 839-07-550 through 839-07-565 (Sexual Harassment Prevention)

Appendix B.

General Powers of Soil & Water Conservation District Directors

The general powers and authorities of conservation districts in Oregon are described in ORS 568.550 as follows:

1. To secure surveys and investigations and do research relating to:
 - a. the character of soil erosion;
 - b. the character of flood water and sediment damage;
 - c. all phases of the conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water; and
 - d. the preventive measures, control measures and improvements needed.
2. To conduct demonstration projects on lands within the district upon obtaining the consent of the owner and occupier of such lands.
3. To carry out preventive and control measures on lands within the district upon obtaining the consent of the owner and occupier of such lands.
4. To enter into written agreements with and within the limits of appropriations duly made available to it by law, to furnish financial or other aid to any agency, governmental or otherwise, or any owner or occupier, or both of them, of and within the district, for the purpose of carrying on soil erosion control and prevention operations within the district.
5. To obtain options upon and to acquire by purchase, exchange, lease, gift, grant, bequest or devise any property, real or personal or rights or interests therein; to maintain, administer and improve any properties acquired; to receive income from such property and to expend such income in carrying out the purposes and provisions of ORS 568.210 to 568.808 and 568.900 to 568.933; and to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of any of its property or interests therein in furtherance of the purposes of ORS 568.210 to 568.808 and 568.900 to 568.933.
6. To borrow money and to mortgage personal property of the district as security therefore; provided, landowners are given opportunity to be heard at a public hearing in the district, notice of which shall be given according to rules described by the department.
7. To make available, on such terms as it shall prescribe, to landowners or occupiers within the district, agricultural and engineering equipment, fertilizer, seeds and seedlings and other material or equipment.
8. To construct, operate and maintain such structures as may be necessary or convenient for performance of any of the operations authorized in ORS 568.210 to 568.808 and 568.900 to 568.933.
9. To develop comprehensive plans and specifications for the conservation of soil resources and for the continued control and prevention of soil erosion within the district, and to publish such plans, specifications, and information and bring them to the attention of owners and occupiers of lands within the district.
10. To take over, by purchase, lease, or otherwise, and to administer, any soil conservation erosion control, or erosion prevention project, or combination thereof, located within its boundaries undertaken by the United States or any of its agencies, or by the state or any of its agencies.

11. To manage, as agent of the United States of any of its agencies, or of the state or any of its agencies, any soil conservation, erosion control, or erosion prevention project, or combination thereof, within its boundaries.
12. To act as agent for the United States or any of its agencies, in connection with the acquisition, construction, operation, or administration of any soil conservation erosion control, or erosion prevention project, or combination thereof, within its boundaries.
13. To accept donations, gifts and contributions in money, services, materials, or otherwise from the United States or any of its agencies, or from this state or any of its agencies, and to use or expend such moneys, services, materials or other contributions in carrying out its operations.
14. To sue or be sued in the name of the district; to have a seal, which shall be judicially noticed; to have perpetual succession unless terminated as provided by law; to make and execute contracts and other documents necessary or convenient to the exercise of its powers; to make, and from time to time amend and appeal, rules not inconsistent with ORS 568.210 to 568.808 and 568.900 to 568.933 to carry into effect its purposes and powers.
15. As a condition to the extending of benefits under ORS 568.210 to 568.808 and 568.900 to 568.933 to, or the performance of work upon, any lands not owned or controlled by this state or any agencies, the directors may require contributions in money, service, materials or otherwise to operations conferring such benefits, and may require landowners and occupiers to enter into and perform such agreements or covenants as will tend to prevent or control erosion thereon.
16. To purchase liability insurance or indemnity insurance, in such amounts and containing such terms and conditions as they may deem necessary, for the protection of directors, officers and employees in the performances of their official duties. The premiums for such insurance shall be paid out of moneys available for expenditures by the district.

Appendix C.

Commonly Used Acronyms

CGFG – Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers
CGCWMA – Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area
CLT – Columbia Land Trust
CTWS – Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation
DEQ – Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
DSL – Oregon Division of State Lands
Extension – Oregon State University (OSU) Extension Service
FSA – USDA Farm Services Agency
HRC – Hood River County
HRSWCD – Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District
 LMA – Local Management Agency for Senate Bill 1010 program
 LAC – Local Advisory Committee for Senate Bill 1010
 Area Plan and Rules – Hood River Ag Water Quality Management Area Plan and Rules
HRWG – Hood River Watershed Group
IDs – Irrigation Districts
 FID – Farmers Irrigation District
 MFID – Middle Fork Irrigation District
 EFID – East Fork Irrigation District
 DID – Dee Irrigation District
IFP – Integrated Fruit Production
MCAREC – Mid-Columbia Agricultural Research and Extension Center
NOAA Fisheries – National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Fisheries (formerly National Marine Fisheries Service)
NRCS – USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly Soil Conservation Service)
 EQIP – Environmental Quality Incentives Program
 CREP – Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
 CRP - Conservation Reserve Program
 CCRP – Continuous CRP program
 CSP – Conservation Stewardship Program
 SIP - Stewardship Incentive Program
 FIP – Forestry Incentive Program
 WRP – Wetland Reserve Program
 WHIP – Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program
 ACP – Agricultural Conservation Program
 ECP – Emergency Conservation Program
ODA – Oregon Department of Agriculture
ODF – Oregon Department of Forestry
ODFW – Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
ODOT – Oregon Department of Transportation
OPRD – Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
OWEB – Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
OWRD – Oregon Water Resources Department
UCD – Underwood Conservation District, White Salmon, WA
USBOR – United States Bureau of Reclamation
USDA – United State Department of Agriculture
USFS – USDA-Forest Service

Appendix D.

Water quality status of Hood River streams (DEQ 2010 303(d) list).

Stream Segment	Water Quality Parameters						
	Temperature*	pH	Dissolved Oxygen	<i>E. coli</i>	Biological Criteria	PESTICIDES: Chlorpyrifos (C), Guthion (G)	METALS: Arsenic (A), beryllium (B), copper (C), iron (I), manganese (M), thallium (T), zinc (Z)
Clear Creek Branch (River Mile 0-3.8)	X						
Cold Spring Creek (0-4.7)					X		
Dog River (0-10.7)							B, I
East Fork Hood River (Mile 0-27.4)	X				X		B, C, I, T
Evans Creek (0-8)					X		B, C, I
Harphan Creek (0-2.6)					X		
Hood River (0-14.6)	X						B, C, I, T
Indian Creek (0-7.8)	X			X		C	
Indian Creek: 2 tributaries (0-0)				X			
Lake Branch (0-11.1)	X						
Lenz Creek (0-1.5)		X			X	C, G	A, B, I, M
McGuire Creek (0-0.9)						G	
Middle Fork Hood River (0-9.5)	X				X		B, I
Middle Fork Hood River trib (0-1.4)					X		
Mitchell Creek (0-2.3)							Z
Neal Creek (0-5.6)	X		X		X	C, G	A, B, I, M
Polallie Creek trib (0-2.7)					X		
West Fork Hood River (0-14.4)	X	X					B, T
West Fork Neal Creek (0-9)			X				
Whiskey Creek (0-2.5)	X						

* TMDL established for this parameter.

Appendix E.

List of federally protected species, candidate species and species of concern that may occur in Hood River County as of May, 2015.

Species listed as Threatened or Endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act

<u>Common name</u>	<u>Scientific name</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Notes</u>
<i>Fish</i>			
Bull trout	<i>Salvelinus confluentus</i>	Threatened	Present in the mainstem Hood River, Middle Fork and Middle Fork tributaries
Summer steelhead	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Threatened	Present in the mainstem Hood River, West Fork and West Fork tributaries
Winter steelhead	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Threatened	Present in the mainstem Hood River and its major tributaries
Spring Chinook	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	Threatened	Original Hood River run is extinct but new run is being established by Warm Springs Tribe
Fall Chinook	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	Threatened	Limited numbers in lower mainstem Hood River
Coho	<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>	Threatened	Present in the mainstem Hood River and its major tributaries
<i>Birds</i>			
Northern spotted owl	<i>Strix occidentalis caurina</i>	Threatened	Present in old-growth forests
<i>Mammals</i>			
Canada lynx	<i>Lynx canadensis</i>	Threatened	May be present in county
Grey wolf	<i>Canis lupis</i>	Endangered	May be present in county

List of Species of Concern

<u>Common name</u>	<u>Scientific name</u>	<u>Status</u>
<i>Fish</i>		
Pacific lamprey	<i>Lampetra tridentata</i>	Federal species of concern, state status is vulnerable
Coastal cutthroat trout	<i>Oncorhynchus clarkii clarkii</i>	Federal species of concern, state status is vulnerable
<i>Birds</i>		
Northern goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Federal species of concern, state status is vulnerable
Olive-sided flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	Federal species of concern, state status is vulnerable
Willow flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii adastus</i>	Federal species of concern, state status is vulnerable
Harlequin duck	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>	Federal species of concern
Yellow-breasted chat	<i>Icteria virens</i>	Federal species of concern, state status is critical
Lewis' woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	Federal species of concern, state status is critical
Band-tailed pigeon	<i>Patagioenas fasciata</i>	Federal species of concern
White-headed woodpecker	<i>Picoides albolarvatus</i>	Federal species of concern, state status is critical
Purple martin	<i>Progne subis</i>	Federal species of concern, state status is critical
Burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	State status is critical
Columbian sharp-tailed grouse	<i>Tympanuchus phasianellus columbianus</i>	State status is critical
Yellow rail	<i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i>	State status is critical

Upland sandpiper	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>	State status is critical
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Western population is threatened; state status is critical
Amphibians		
Cascades frog	<i>Rana cascadae</i>	Federal species of concern, state listed as vulnerable
Larch Mountain salamander	<i>Plethodon larselli</i>	Federal species of concern, state listed as vulnerable
Oregon slender salamander	<i>Batrachoseps wrightorum</i>	Federal species of concern, state listed as vulnerable
Coastal tailed frog	<i>Ascaphus truei</i>	Federal species of concern, state listed as vulnerable
Northern red-legged frog	<i>Rana aurora aurora</i>	Federal species of concern, state listed as vulnerable
Oregon spotted frog	<i>Rana pretiosa</i>	Federal candidate for listing under the ESA, state listed as critical
Northern leopard frog	<i>Lithobates pipiens</i>	State listed as critical
Reptiles		
Western pond turtle	<i>Actinemys marmorata</i>	Federal species of concern, state listed as critical
Western painted turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta bellii</i>	State listed as critical
Mammals		
California wolverine	<i>Gulo gulo luteus</i>	Federal species of concern, state status is threatened
Silver-haired bat	<i>Lasionycteris noctivagans</i>	Federal species of concern, state status is vulnerable
Small-footed myotis bat	<i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i>	Federal species of concern
Long-legged myotis bat	<i>Myotis volans</i>	Federal species of concern, state status is vulnerable
Long-eared myotis bat	<i>Myotis evotis</i>	Federal species of concern
Yuma myotis bat	<i>Myotis yumanensis</i>	Federal species of concern
Fisher	<i>Martes pennanti</i>	Candidate for federal listing as threatened, state status is critical
Townsend's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Federal species of concern, state status is critical
Insects		
Mt. Hood primitive brachycentrid caddisfly	<i>Eobrachycentrus gelidae</i>	Federal species of concern
Mt. Hood farulan caddisfly	<i>Farula jewetti</i>	Federal species of concern
Goeden's lepidostoman caddisfly	<i>Lepidostoma geodeni</i>	Federal species of concern
One-spot rhyacophilan caddisfly	<i>Rhyacophila unipunctata</i>	Federal species of concern
Plants		
Howell's bentgrass	<i>Agrostis howellii</i>	Federal species of concern
Mountain grape fern	<i>Botrychium montanum</i>	Federal species of concern
Cliff paintbrush	<i>Castilleja rupicola</i>	Federal species of concern
Howell's daisy	<i>Erigeron howellii</i>	Federal species of concern
Oregon fleabane	<i>Erigeron oreganus</i>	Federal species of concern
Suksdorf's desert parsley	<i>Lomatium suksdorfii</i>	Federal species of concern
White meconella	<i>Meconella oregano</i>	Federal species of concern
Barrett's penstemon	<i>Penstemon barrettiae</i>	Federal species of concern
Oregon sullivania	<i>Sullivantia oregana</i>	Federal species of concern