

Network of Oregon Watershed Councils

Fiscal Year 2009 Annual Report



The Network of Oregon Watershed Councils is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that supports the work of Oregon's watershed councils to enhance watershed health and benefit local communities.

www.oregonwatersheds.org
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Dear Friends, Supporters, and Colleagues:

Building community for healthy watersheds.

Oregon leads the way in bringing local people together to achieve watershed health. Local watershed councils coordinate partnerships, implement projects to restore stream health, offer environmental education to students and adults, monitor water quality, protect upland habitat, evaluate the effectiveness of restoration projects, leverage investment in local infrastructure, and build community capacity. The Network of Oregon Watershed Councils was created by councils because they saw a need for an organization to provide statewide assistance and support to help them in building community for healthy watersheds. Never has it been more important to undertake this challenge. Healthy watersheds ensure clean water, provide habitat for fish and other wildlife, and offer economic benefits to their human inhabitants. At the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils, our mission is to support councils' work to enhance watershed health and benefit local communities.

During the past fiscal year (July 2008-June 2009), we've offered an increased number and variety of services in support of councils. In the following pages, we invite you to learn more about our:

- Risk Management Seminars
- Volunteer Appreciation and Leadership Dinners
- New Coordinator Workshop
- New Coordinator Handbook
- Council Support Grant assistance
- One-on-one services to councils

In addition to expanding our services to councils, we've also worked to maintain close communication with our partners at the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Oregon Association of Conservation Districts, River Network, OSU Extension Service, and others.

We are particularly grateful for the expansion of foundation support of our efforts on behalf of watershed councils. The Network experiences some fluctuation from year to year among our funding sources. In FY2008 (July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008), OWEB provided 53% of our funding; in FY2009 (July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009) that number was just 24% of total funding. Foundation support accounted for just 7% of FY08 funding and rose to 60% in FY09, while a variety of smaller sources contributed 16%. FY10 projections indicate that OWEB support will increase again. We are tremendously grateful to the many individuals, businesses, foundations, agencies, watershed councils, and others who support our work. Our success is a reflection of your support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Denise Lofman

Denise Lofman, Board Chair

John D. Moriarty

John Moriarty, Executive Director

Building Council Capacity

Council Volunteer Appreciation and Leadership Development Dinners:

In March and April 2009, the Network hosted four Council Volunteer Appreciation and Leadership Development dinners in Medford, McMinnville, Tillamook, and Pendleton. These events provided support and recognition to volunteer council members while helping them to identify their councils' challenges and strengths, and develop the skills necessary for highly successful councils. Nearly 90 council members and staff attended the events, which provided an opportunity for them to network with members of other councils and have a facilitated conversation about effective leadership.



Leadership Dinner in McMinnville

Risk Management Seminars: In the past year, our capacity building program has grown by leaps and bounds. In April 2009, we provided workshops in Salem, Medford, LaGrande, and Bend devoted to Risk Management for Watershed Councils. Built around a hypothetical in-stream project, these seminars were designed to help councils identify and manage the risks inherent in the work of councils across the state. The workshops were attended by representatives of more than 30 councils, SWCDs, and state agencies.

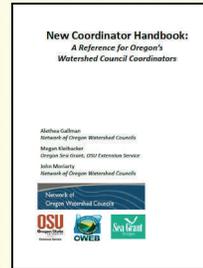
2009 New Coordinator Workshop: New council coordinators face enormous challenges. By definition, watershed councils are composed of a wide variety of community voices: agriculture, timber, conservation, tribal, government agency, urban dweller, academic, and more. Each stakeholder in the watershed brings his or her perspective and interests to the council, while also bringing a willingness to work together toward collaboration. Council coordinators are responsible for helping this diverse group coalesce around actions that will benefit the watershed, often stepping into this difficult task with little training, frequently as their council's sole employee. In May 2009, the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils coordinated a two-day New Coordinator Workshop in Eugene. The workshop served representatives from 11 councils. Network staff, experienced coordinators, tribal and agency experts, and our partners at River Network worked together to guide participants through sessions exploring board relationships, action planning and time management, budgeting, OWEB grant writing, project prioritization and implementation, cultural resources, permitting, contracting, and more.

“I love being a coordinator and this gave me more tools and people to contact for help.”

- 2009 New Coordinator Workshop Participant

Building Council Capacity (cont'd)

New Coordinator Handbook: In August 2009, we completed and distributed the first orientation manual for council coordinators. The *New Coordinator Handbook: A Reference for Oregon's Watershed Council Coordinators* provides vital information for new coordinators, covering topics including what to expect in the first days on the job, council organization and outreach, finances and funding, and projects and permitting. To ensure the accuracy and pertinence of the information included in the *Handbook*, a full draft went through two rounds of peer-review and revisions. The *Handbook* is available both online and as a hard copy.



OWEB Grant Application Assistance: In 2008 and 2009, the Network facilitated conference call-based trainings focused on improving councils' rankings in OWEB's competitive grant-making process. In December 2008, and again in January 2009, we hosted calls focused on OWEB's Council Support Grant review process, wherein experienced applicants volunteered to answer questions and provide advice to those of their peers less experienced with the application process. In September 2009, we hosted similar calls to discuss changes to OWEB's Restoration and Technical Assistance grant applications, also providing a question-and-answer session staffed by experienced applicants.

One-on-one work with councils: In addition to the workshops and calls we have coordinated in the past year, we are also busy working one-on-one with several councils across the state to provide capacity building support. This work has included fundraising and strategic planning assistance, council self-evaluation and conflict resolution facilitation, and assistance with planning and hosting watershed project tours.

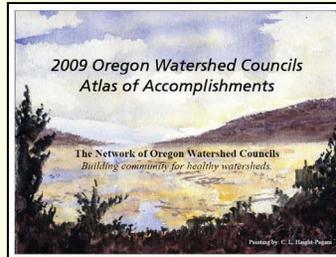
“[Working on our fundraising plan with the Network] has definitely been a key in our development and, I think, the future success of the council... we're communicating the benefits of the watershed and the work we do and getting a response.”

- Matt Clark, Johnson Creek Watershed Council

Website: The Network website (www.oregonwatersheds.org) generates over 1,000 unique visits per month, providing information about individual watershed councils to the public and providing support resources to councils. In the last year, we've added more than 100 new pieces of information to our website, from Oregon Watershed News to Resources for Councils. Documents, publications, call recordings, and other information from all of our workshops and seminars are also available by visiting our website.

Outreach and Awareness Building

Oregon leads the way in innovative, community-based conservation. Time and again, our approach of locally-organized, state supported watershed councils is studied as a model for others. Yet, our own citizens are often unaware of the important work of councils in restoring watershed health. The Network of Oregon Watershed Councils devotes considerable time and energy to educating local, county,



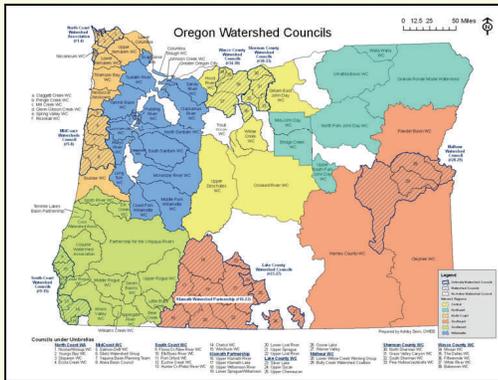
and state policy makers about the role of Oregon's watershed councils, and the importance of supporting their work. In FY09, despite severe economic challenges, legislators recognized the value of watershed restoration to Oregon's environment and economy, and maintained the state's investment at the same level as the previous biennium. The Network is also working with councils to assist them in bringing their success stories to citizens through workshops, tours, the biennial *Atlas of Watershed Council Accomplishments*, and media outreach.

Partnerships

The Network has the good fortune to count on a number of important partners with whom we work to build watershed council capacity. These partnerships take many forms. For example, the **Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)** is a crucial and longstanding supporter of our work. OWEB continues to be a major partner with both funding support and staff participation in Network events. Another important partner is the **Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD)**. Watershed councils and soil and water conservation districts (districts) are the local foundation of Oregon's unique effort to restore lands to ensure clean, abundant water for present and future generations. Districts and councils are made up of local people who know their communities, rivers, forests, wetlands, and farmlands. The Network of Oregon Watershed Councils works closely with OACD to educate legislators, allies, and the public about the important work of these local partners. The **City of Eugene** is a gracious host to the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils. Eugene provides office space free of charge. This has allowed us to devote more resources to serving councils. **River Network** is a national partner organization devoted to supporting watershed groups throughout the United States. Since 2008, the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils has worked with River Network's Watershed Support Network to increase our ability to support councils. **OSU Extension Service** is an important partner on publication development and capacity building efforts with councils.

During FY2009, we also have been fortunate to work with several partners in the business community including **ICF/Jones & Stokes**, **River Design Group**, **ENTRIX**, the **Port of Portland**, **Environmental Science & Assessment**, **Winzler & Kelly**, and **WSC Insurance**. These business partners enable us to provide workshops and other services to councils with greatly reduced registration costs.

About the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils



Board of Directors

North-Mid Coast

Wayne Hoffman

Mid Coast

Denise Lofman (Chair)

Tillamook Bay

Southwest

Harry Hoogesteger

South Coast

Gail Grogan Perrotti

Seven Basins

Willamette

Jim Pendergrass (Treasurer)

Long Tom

Janelle St. Pierre (Secretary)

Scappoose Bay

Central

Ryan Houston

Upper Deschutes

Northeast

Jeff Oveson

Grande Ronde

Brian Wolcott

Walla Walla Basin

Southeast

Anna Kerr

Lake County

Dan Weitz

Powder Basin

Staff

John Moriarty

Executive Director

Alethea Gallman

Education & Training Coordinator

Ben Lubbers

Program Associate

Advisory Council

The Network of Oregon Watershed Councils looks to leaders in the business, natural resources, and nonprofit communities throughout Oregon to provide us with support and professional counsel. The following individuals have accepted our invitation to serve as members of our Advisory Council. While the Network's Advisory Council is not a decision-making body, their expertise, experience, and guidance are crucial to the success of our efforts. We offer our sincere appreciation to each of these extraordinary Oregon citizens. Thank you for your commitment to the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils, and to councils throughout the state.

- **Steve Barton**, *General Manager, KLCC Radio (retired)*
- **Michelle Bussard**, *Executive Director, Forest Park Conservancy*
- **Julia Doermann**, *Oregon State University*
- **Deborah Dyson**, *Attorney at Law*
- **John Runyon**, *Senior Ecologist, ICF/Jones & Stokes*
- **Charles F. Sams III**, *Director, Tribal & Native Lands Program, Trust for Public Land*
- **Susan Schwartz**, *Director of Development, Komen for the Cure, Oregon & Southwest Washington Affiliate*
- **Stacey Triplett**, *Strategy Center, Metro Regional Government*

FY 2009 Support for the Network Provided by

Businesses

ICF/Jones & Stokes
River Design Group, Inc.
Port of Portland
Winzler & Kelly
ENTRIX, Inc.
Environmental Science & Assessment
WSC Insurance
Columbia Helicopters
Goebel & Associates (in-kind)
Thomson Kessler Wiest & Borquist (in-kind)
Sequential Community Partnership

Individual Contributors

Anonymous
Lily Moriarty
Matthew Clark & Abigail Sarmac
Denise Lofman
In Honor of Jamie & Kristin Stebbins
 Norman & Sis Duquette
 Lily Moriarty
 Kit Kirkpatrick & John Moriarty
 White Envelope Project:
 Kara & Chris DeVoie
 Shauna & Greg Dobek
 Dan & Mary Moriarty

Individual Contributors (in-kind)

Don Easton
Lynn Youngbar
Terry Morton
Monte Turner
Deb Dyson

Foundations

Meyer Memorial Trust
Spirit Mountain Community Fund
Compton Foundation
Laird Norton Family Foundation

Nonprofit Organizations

Oregon Forest Industries Council
The Nature Conservancy
River Network

Watershed Councils:

Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers
Upper Deschutes
Long Tom
Illinois Valley
Little Butte Creek
Powder Basin
Calapooia
Scappoose Bay
Columbia Slough
Bear Creek
Klamath Watershed Partnership
North Fork John Day
Tillamook Bay
Upper Rogue
Nestucca-Neskowin
Middle Rogue
Yamhill Basin
Seven Basins
Elk Creek
Lake County (in-kind)
Midcoast (in-kind)
North Santiam (in-kind)

State and Municipal Agencies

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
City of Eugene (in-kind)

Fiscal Year 2009 Financial Report

Statement of Activities

For the year ended June 30, 2009

Revenue	
Contributions (includes in-kind)	\$81,145
Government grants	\$55,189
Foundation grants	\$212,770
Program service fees	\$18,708
Investment return	\$2,097
Other	\$479
Total Revenue	\$370,388
Expenses	
Program services	\$235,172
Supporting services	\$35,964
Fundraising	\$1,524
Total Expenses	\$272,660
Net assets at beginning of year	\$101,270
Net assets at end of year	\$198,998
Change in net assets	\$97,728

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2009

Assets	
Current Assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$89,434
Grants and Program Service Fees receivable	\$12,281
Unconditional promises to give	\$65,000
Total current assets	\$166,715
Furniture and equipment, net	\$603
Long-term unconditional promises to give	\$62,770
Total assets	\$230,088
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	\$13,958
Payroll and payroll taxes payable	\$13,675
Accrued vacation	\$3,457
Total liabilities	\$31,090

Net assets:	
Unrestricted	
Operating	\$48,625
Fixed Assets	\$603
Total unrestricted net assets	\$49,228
Temporarily restricted net assets	\$149,770
Total net assets	\$198,998
Total liabilities and net assets	\$230,088

Fiscal Year 2009 Revenue

