

# 2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

## *Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District*

### ~Mission Statement~

*“To provide leadership, education, motivation and assistance to the citizens of Deschutes County for responsible, efficient stewardship of our soil and water resources.”*

Board meetings are open to the public and held the third Thursday of each month.

The meetings have been held via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic

See the website for locations and dates for meetings. [www.deschuteswcd.com](http://www.deschuteswcd.com)



## **DESCHUTES SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

In 1939, the Oregon Legislature passed legislation to establish conservation district in Oregon. Conservation Districts are charged with directing programs to protect local renewable natural resources in their county. The Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District was established on June 23, 1947 under the name “Midstate SCD”, which then was changed to the Deschutes SWCD on September 9, 1987.

Deschutes SWCD is a political subdivisions of state government but is not a state agency, rather a municipal corporation that follow the same laws that govern state agencies. The Deschutes SWCD is not a regulatory and enforcement agency nor is it an environmental activist group. We are an organization that works with farmers, ranchers, forest owners, and other partners to sustain and improve our natural resources in Deschutes County. The Deschutes SWCD board members are elected in general elections every 2 years.

Deschutes SWCD provides onsite technical assistance to help you address natural resource concerns on your property.

The Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District provides free technical assistance to private landowners and land managers to address resource concerns on their land. Resource concerns most common to Deschutes County are water quantity, water quality, forest health, invasive weeds, and fish and wildlife. The Deschutes 2019 – 2024 Long Range Plan identifies natural resource needs in the county and objectives to address them. To obtain a copy of the 2019 – 2024 Long Range Plan visit the Deschutes SWCD website at [www.deschuteswcd.org](http://www.deschuteswcd.org).

### **Board of Directors:**

William Kuhn, Chair  
Jeff Rola, Co-Chair  
Leslie Clark, Treasurer  
Susan Altman, Secretary  
Colin Wills/Andrew Aasen, Director  
Robin Vora, Director  
Gen Hubert, Director

### **STAFF**

Erin Kilcullen: District Manager  
Todd Peplin: Programs Leader/Planner  
Tom Bennett: Conservation Technician

## **Technical Advisors:**

Theresa Debardeleben: Oregon Department of Agriculture - Watershed Specialist  
Lars Santana Natural Resource Conservation Service,  
District Conservationist

## **Partners:**

Deschutes County  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)  
USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA)  
USDA Forest Service (USFS)  
Upper Deschutes Watershed Council (UDWC)  
Deschutes River Conservancy (DRC)  
Oregon State University (OSU) Extension Service  
Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)  
Project Wildfire  
Upper Deschutes River Communities  
Deschutes Land Trust  
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)  
Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD)  
National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)  
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)

## **Sources of Funding 2019 - 2020**

Soil and water conservation districts throughout the state receive funds annually from the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA). The intended uses of these funds are to help educate and outreach to the public regarding the Agricultural Water Quality Standards set by Oregon statute. The funds also help provide technical assistance to private landowners who are interested in implementing restoration projects that tie to water quality. In addition, these funds are used to leverage other grant funds to implement projects in the county. The Deschutes SWCD has leveraged these funds with Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) funds along with Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) funds to implement projects and assist NRCS achieve conservation objectives.

## 2019 – 2020 Accomplishments

### Community and Landowner Engagement:

#### MANURE EXCHANGE PROGRAM



DESCHUTES SOIL AND  
WATER CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT



MEP outreach materials (flyers and informational brochures) were developed and distributed to OSU Extension, Master Gardeners, Nurseries, and Feed and Supply stores (Wilco, Coastal etc.) (see attached flyers). In addition, information about the program was posted on Craig's List, Bend Bulletin, The Source, and the Round up. In August 2019, the Deschutes SWCD shared a Booth with Deschutes County invasive species division at the Deschutes County fair. Over 600 people visited the booth, 280 Deschutes County Rural Living Handbooks were distributed along with 20 USDA NRCS "Steps for Small Acreage Rural Living in Oregon" planning books. Several MEP brochures were also distributed at the fair. Nine landowners scheduled appointments to have field visits conducted and conservation plans developed on their lands.

**Are You Ready for The Irrigation Season??**

**Come Join us!**

**Saturday March 7th, 8:00AM—2:00PM**  
**Terrebonne Grange Hall,**  
**8286 11<sup>th</sup> St. Terrebonne OR.**

Learn about the upcoming water season, Maintenance tips to ready your irrigation system, Incentives available to landowners, and Knowledge to improve your irrigation and grazing management skills.

This is a **FREE** Event  
Snacks provided/bring a lunch

Logos at the bottom include: Central Electric Cooperative, Inc., Oregon State University, Energy Trust of Oregon, WyEast, Thompson Pump, and Irrigation.

In January of 2020, Deschutes SWCD and OSU Extension formulated an Irrigation Water Management (IWM) targeted for patrons in the five irrigation districts in Deschutes County. These workshops were scheduled to be conducted in March and April. Informational flyers were sent to all the patrons in each irrigation District (COID 2548, TID 694, AID 647, SID 621, and TSID 189 for a total of 4,699 patrons – flyer attached). The first workshop was conducted on March 7<sup>th</sup> for the Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID)

Patrons. Presenters were Deschutes SWCD, COID, Thompson Pump, WyEast RC&D, Energy Trust of Oregon, OSU Extension, and Deschutes River Conservancy (DRC). 37 patrons participated with 8 patrons requesting field visits and additional information about programs. Two other IWM workshop were scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup> and April 7<sup>th</sup>, unfortunately these had to be cancelled due to the COVID 19 outbreak. It is anticipated these workshops will be offered in the fall of 2020.

### **Technical Assistance for Landowners:**

For the fiscal year of 2020 there has been 47 landowners that have received one on one assistance from the Deschutes SWCD. This resulted in the development of conservation plans that addressed water quality and quantity issues along with management of their forage, animal, and wildlife needs. Total acres planned were 526 acres. Conservation practices planned are:

- 449 – Irrigation water management
- 442 – Irrigation Sprinkler System
- 528 – Prescribe Grazing
- 590 – Nutrient management
- 430 – Irrigation water Conveyance Pipeline
- 587 – Structure for Water Control

Under a NRCS/OWEB grant The Deschutes SWCD assisted 15 landowners in the Three Sisters Irrigation District (TSID) providing IWM technical assistance. This assistance evaluated their current on-farm irrigation systems and provided education on irrigation water management (IWM) principles. Several types of on farm irrigation systems were evaluated. Education to landowners consisted of soil moisture determinations, crop water demands, ET values, and how to calculate set times, all of which to prevent irrigation water runoff and leaching of nutrients.

In addition, the Deschutes SWCD continues to work within the Indian Ford watershed under the Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) grant. Work was focused on private land near the confluence of Wychus and Indian Ford Ck. Animal facilities and sheds have been removed along Whychus creek, along with manual piles that threaten the waterways. Seeding was completed in the spring of 2020 which will improve wildlife habitat, forage for livestock, and prevent further sedimentation to Whychus Creek.



The Deschutes SWCD is currently involved in a focus area action plan (FAAP) under the ODA Capacity grant. The projects under this action plan are the G-4 lateral located within the Central Oregon Irrigation District area, and the Tower Ditch private ditch located within the Swalley Irrigation District area. Both projects involve modernization of the irrigation water conveyance system that service landowners on these private ditches.

On-farm irrigation designs have been completed for all landowners on the G-4 lateral. The Deschutes SWCD continues to collaborate with Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in coordinating implementation of the project.

In August of 2019 Deschutes SWCD received an OWRD grant to examine the feasibility to pipe the Tower Ditch. Investigations, analysis, and alternatives have been developed. Results will be presented to the landowners in July of this year to determine next steps in implementation.

### **Partnerships:**

Deschutes SWCD continues to improve our partnerships, involving them in coordinating and planning development of projects and support of future grants.

This past year, The Deschutes SWCD has focused efforts addressing forest health issues in southern Deschutes County seeking assistance and support from Project Wildfire, Central Oregon Cohesive Strategy Initiative (COCSI), Walker Range Fire Patrol, Oregon Department of Forestry, USFS, NRCS, Deschutes County, and OSU Extension. This effort has interest of the Deschutes County Commissioners in supporting projects in south county.

The Deschutes SWCD continues to strengthen partnerships with the five-irrigation district in Deschutes County (Arnold, Swalley, Tumalo, Three Sisters, and Central Oregon Irrigation District) identifying on farm improvements that can take advantage of the irrigation districts modernization projects. The cohesiveness of this partnership was demonstrated in January 2020 where the Deschutes SWCD and OSU Extension developed and conducted an irrigation water management (IWM) forum targeting patrons in each irrigation districts area. All 5 irrigation districts provided financial support for the workshops along with WyEast RC&D, Central Electric Cooperative and Energy Trust of Oregon.

# Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District

## Profit and Loss

### July 2019 through June 2020

	Jul '19 - Jun 20
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
OWEB NRCS	31,153.49 <b>(24,961.89)</b>
OWRD Lundy	1,512.89 <b>(1,159.06)</b>
OWRD Tower	1,993.57 <b>(10,593.37)</b>
<b>TEMP RESTRICTED INCOME</b>	
County Funds	2,665.16
Grant Income	
Childrens Forest Foundation	998.75
ODA Admin	51,739.25 <b>(24,994.00)</b>
ODA SOW Income	121,634.11 <b>(58,320.00)</b>
OWEB Small Grant Income	479.42
SIA	1,568.54
<b>Total Grant Income</b>	<b>176,420.07 (125,740.19)</b>
NACD Grant	8,083.01
OWEB Swalley Weed	5,856.69
<b>Total TEMP RESTRICTED INCOME</b>	<b>193,024.93</b>
<b>UNRESTRICTED INCOME</b>	
Admin Income	694.60
UNRESTRICTED INCOME - Other	287.70
<b>Total UNRESTRICTED INCOME</b>	<b>982.30</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>228,667.18 (177,987.30)</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>ADMIN EXPENSES - ODA</b>	
Accounting Fees	4,637.60
Dues & Subscriptions	863.16
Legal Fees	2,819.00
Liability Insurance	2,248.00
Meals/Food	0.00
Mileage	129.34
Misc Office Expense	1,254.93
Office Supplies	247.97

Printing	1,124.75
<b>ADMIN EXPENSES - ODA - Other</b>	<b>1,038.75</b>
<b>Total ADMIN EXPENSES - ODA</b>	<b>14,363.50</b>
<b>GRANT EXPENSE - ODA</b>	
Advertising	0.00
Contracted Services	112.50
Education	50.00
Meeting Room Rental	175.00
Travel / Mileage	747.62
<b>GRANT EXPENSE - ODA - Other</b>	<b>102.80</b>
<b>Total GRANT EXPENSE - ODA</b>	<b>1,187.92</b>
NACD Grant 2018	659.85
ODA SOW	3,363.99
OWEB SID Weed Grant	5,026.11
OWEB/NRCS 2019	828.79
<b>PERSONNEL</b>	
Employee Benefits	9,082.13
Insurance - WC	598.11
Medical Insurance	4,784.52
Payroll Expense	
Payroll	80,264.09
Payroll Taxes	6,379.92
<b>Total Payroll Expense</b>	<b>86,644.01</b>
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>101,108.77</b>
SIA	81.65
Unrestricted Expenses	500.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>127,120.58</b>
Net Ordinary Income	<b>101,546.60 (50,866.72)</b>
Net Income	<b>101,546.60 (50,866.72)</b>

\*Corrections to grant incomes from our paper copies in office.

\*Numbers from QuickBooks