

Circle Creek purchase protects coastal floodplain wetlands in Seaside

A popular coastal wetland project caught in the crossfire of a legislative conflict over conservation land acquisitions cleared its last hurdle in July when the North Coast Land Conservancy completed its purchase of a 364-acre property along the Necanicum River in Seaside.

The Clatsop County-based land trust had been working to acquire the Circle Creek property since 2001. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approved a \$750,000 grant to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board for the project in 2002, but the federal funds got snagged in the Oregon Legislature along with a second federal grant for wetland acquisitions along Yaquina Bay.

Legislative supporters got the two coastal projects included in the final state budget last August.

Locally, the Circle Creek project has enjoyed strong support. The City of Seaside and the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners backed the acquisition, as did the area's two state legislators.

Seaside high school students put on a series of car washes this spring that raised more than \$1,700 to help put the fund-



Circle Creek

Neal Maine / NCLC

raising campaign over the top. In addition to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, other contributors to the \$1.2 million purchase included in the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (\$300,000); National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (\$80,000); and a variety of other private groups and state and federal funding sources.

Targeted for development in the 1970s, the Circle Creek property is within the city of Seaside. The property includes more than two miles of Circle Creek, a

low-gradient stream that is highly productive for salmon and steelhead, and more than two miles of frontage along the Necanicum River.

The lower end of Circle Creek winds through a 160-acre spruce swamp, one of the largest remaining blocks of a forested wetland type that has been largely eliminated from Oregon. The property also includes about 60 acres of

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Inside the joint venture

When the joint venture partners get together for our occasional meetings, we spend most of our time focused on what everybody is doing for habitat conservation and very little time talking about the organization itself. But it is useful every once in a while to step back and consider the larger institutional structure that makes all these voluntary cooperative efforts possible.

The **Pacific Coast Joint Venture**, which got its start in 1991 with no real money and a staff of one, now encompasses a string of partnerships that extends from Northern California through western Oregon to Alaska and Hawaii, generating more than \$75 million in conservation investments in 2003 alone. The **Intermountain West Joint Venture**, the regional umbrella for joint venture partnerships in eastern Oregon and parts of 10 other western states, marks its 10th anniversary in September. Over that decade, IWJV partners have collectively come up with the resources to protect, restore or enhance more than 250,000 acres of some of the most important habitat in the west.

The success of the joint venture model has not gone unrecognized. Congressional budget-writers have more than tripled federal funding for joint venture coordination nationwide since 2000.

What really makes the joint venture work, of course, is the people. Here in Oregon, we've been fortunate to work with some of the best. A few have made notable transitions in recent months: **Carey Smith**, coordinator of the Pacific Coast Joint Venture since its inception, retired after a long career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service but is still doing the same job as a private contractor. In March, Ducks Unlimited named Smith the winner of its 2004 Wetland Conservation Achievement Award, described by Carey with typical modesty as "the equivalent of the Heisman Trophy in the world of waterfowl and wetland conservation"... The Nature Conservancy's long-time land acquisition wizard, **Russ Pinto**, left for a similar job with the Western Rivers Conservancy in Northern California. Now filling his old position: **Brenda Brown**, formerly with the Trust for Public Land's Oregon office... Heading out the door: **Fred Taylor**, longtime wildlife biologist with the Bureau of Land Management in Burns, dedicated Ducks Unlimited volunteer, and stalwart advocate for southeast Oregon's wildlife, moving to Montana and a job with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

•••

The Oregon Habitat Joint Venture's website has moved and can now be found at www.ohjv.org.

- Bruce Taylor

Roundup

Construction work to open the heart of the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge to public use will get under way later this year, and funding for the second phase of development may be on its way in 2005.

The \$1.5 million first phase includes highway modifications, an entrance roadway, parking, and other recreation and education facilities at the former Steinborn Dairy site along Highway 99W near Sherwood. With about 400 acres of wetlands, the unit offers some of the best wildlife viewing opportunities on the refuge. Construction is expected to occur over the next six to nine months, and the area will open to the public sometime next year.

Rep. David Wu helped secure an additional allocation of \$1.7 million for the second phase of the project in the House of Representatives' version of the 2005 Interior Appropriations bill, which includes the budget for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Senate action is expected later this summer. The money would be used to complete engineering and design and help fund future construction of a visitor center and headquarters office on the site.

The Deschutes Basin Land Trust in June dedicated its new Metolius Preserve, a 1,240-acre property near Camp Sherman that includes more than three miles of Lake Creek, a major tributary of the Metolius River.

The land trust raised \$2.4 million to protect the largest private holding in the Metolius watershed from development. The preserve's mixed conifer forests and riparian habitats provide important habitat for a variety of birds. Spring chinook and sockeye salmon may eventually return to Lake Creek after a half-century's absence as a result of planned fish passage improvements at dams on the Deschutes River.

In addition to protecting and restoring habitats, the Deschutes Basin Land Trust plans to provide opportunities for education, research, and low-impact recreational use on the preserve, which is about 30 miles northwest of Bend.

Greenbelt Land Trust and partners to share \$960,000 grant for Willamette Valley conservation projects

A federal grant of almost \$1 million will fund conservation easements and wetland restoration work along Muddy Creek south of Corvallis and help pay off last year's purchase of a key floodplain property on the Willamette River.

The Greenbelt Land Trust put together the successful \$960,000 request for funding under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant program, which is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Greenbelt, based in Corvallis, will use \$410,000 to purchase permanent conservation easements on 300 acres of private land along Muddy Creek, which supports some of the best remaining wetland and riparian habitats in the Willamette Valley.

Another \$450,000 will go towards last year's acquisition of Green Island by the McKenzie River Trust, helping to pay off a loan used to complete the \$1.7 million purchase. The Eugene-based land trust bought 856 acres at the confluence of the Willamette and McKenzie rivers; the remainder of the 1,300-acre island is already in public ownership.

Other grant funds will be used to restore or enhance 185 acres of wetland, riparian, and prairie habitats along Muddy Creek at William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge's Cabell Marsh and on private lands immediately north of the refuge.

The Muddy Creek corridor and the Green Island area have been identified among the Willamette Valley's top conservation priorities because of their high ecological values and their potential to serve as anchors for future habitat restoration strategies.

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Grant funds will help pay for the McKenzie River Trust's purchase of Green Island at the confluence of the Willamette and McKenzie rivers.

Landowner guide details restoration techniques

Willamette Valley landowners interested in habitat restoration can now tap into detailed technical guidance on the subject, thanks to a new publication from Defenders of Wildlife.

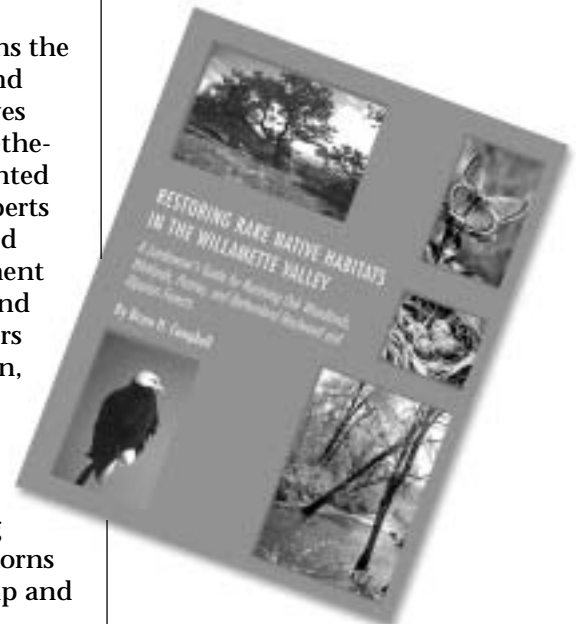
Restoring Rare Native Habitats in the Willamette Valley: A Landowner's Guide for Restoring Oak Woodlands, Wetlands, Prairies, and Bottomland Hardwood and Riparian Forests, gets down to the nuts-and-bolts details of restoration work.

Author Bruce Campbell, a wildlife biologist who now runs the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Landowner Incentives Program, drew on years of on-the-ground experience, supplemented by advice from other local experts and a wide variety of published sources. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife helped fund the publication, with Defenders of Wildlife handling the design, editing, and production.

The result is a 70-page guide, backed by extensive appendices, that provides practical advice on everything from collecting and sorting acorns ("viable acorns will look plump and

have a dark color") to project design and vegetative management ("Because biennial thistles don't reproduce from their roots, any mechanism that severs the root below the soil surface will kill them.")

The document is available on-line at a Defenders of Wildlife website, www.biodiversitypartners.org. Printed copies are available free by writing to Defenders of Wildlife, 1880 Willamette Falls Drive, Suite 200, West Linn OR 97068.



Governor to release Yaquina Bay funding



Poole Slough

Dave Pitkin / USFWS

The Wetlands Conservancy is moving ahead with plans to purchase almost 500 acres to protect sensitive wetlands along Yaquina Bay, including some of Oregon's most pristine remaining tidal marshes.

Gov. Ted Kulongoski agreed to release \$952,000 in federal funds for the project after the Legislature's Emergency Board failed to act on the issue in June.

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board approved a \$317,000 contribution to the project in May.

The Wetlands Conservancy, working with the MidCoast Watersheds Council and the Central Coast Land Conservancy, has identified a set of priority properties for purchase along McCaffery and Poole Sloughs, Johnson Slough, and along the Yaquina River just above Toledo.

Located about halfway between Newport and Toledo along the south side of Yaquina Bay, Poole Slough and McCaffery Slough are largely inaccessible except by boat and are among the least disturbed tidal wetland systems in Oregon.

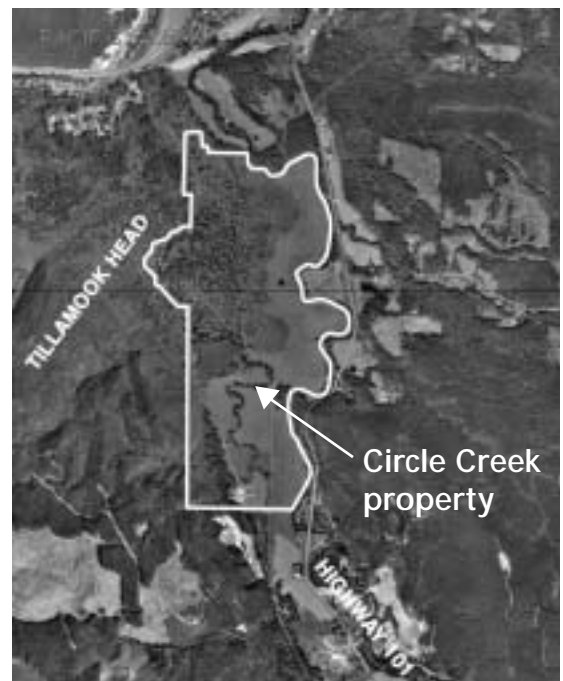
Contact: Esther Lev, The Wetlands Conservancy, 503-691-1394; estherlev@wetlandsconservancy.org

Circle Creek *(continued from page 1)*

freshwater marsh and 70 acres of seasonally flooded pastures that provide important habitat for wintering waterfowl and other migratory birds. Two herds of elk use the open fields and wetland forest almost daily during winter and spring. Both Circle Creek and the Necanicum River support spawning coho and chum salmon populations. Sampling on the property has documented presence of juvenile steelhead and both juvenile and adult cutthroat trout in Circle Creek.

The North Coast Land Conservancy will develop a long-term management and restoration plan for the property, which may eventually be transferred to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, which manages more than 2,500 acres of upland forests in adjacent Ecola State Park.

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Siletz Bay project expands estuary's tidal marshes

Removal of a 1.5-mile dike along Millport Slough last fall has opened up an additional 100 acres of tidal marshes at Siletz Bay. The project, a partnership between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Ducks Unlimited, is the largest habitat restoration effort to date on the Siletz Bay National Wildlife Refuge. As part of the project, the local power company also relocated its powerlines across the marsh, and a helicopter brought in chunks of large old Sitka spruce trees for placement in tidal channels to improve fish habitat. Monitoring by the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indian Reservation indicates that juvenile salmon are finding their way into newly opened marshes, which had been diked off from the estuary for decades.

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Dave Pitkin / USFWS

Removal of a dike along Millport Slough (center, behind Highway 101) opened 100 acres of tidal marsh along the upper right side of the photo. The Siletz River is at upper left. Most of the river delta area at the south-eastern end of Siletz Bay is in national wildlife refuge ownership.

North Coast Land Conservancy adds coastal wetland properties

Aspectacular shoreline property along Nehalem Bay and four Clatsop County wetlands are among the recent additions to the portfolio of properties protected by the North Coast Land Conservancy.

The Gearhart-based land trust will permanently protect a spectacular one-mile stretch of tidal marsh and riparian forest on Nehalem Bay, thanks to a land donation from Cliff and Carol Halverson. The 30-acre parcel is adjacent to Highway 101 south of Wheeler and directly across from Nehalem Bay State Park.

The conservancy also obtained four wetland properties totaling 84 acres in Clatsop County as part of a legal settlement between the county and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Among the properties are 34 acres encompassing all of Wild Ace Lake in Warrenton, and tidal wetlands adjacent to the Twilight Bald Eagle Sanctuary.



Neal Maine / NCLC

Fisher Point wetlands on Nehalem Bay

Nursery operator works to recreate history



Oak savanna on Heritage Seedlings property near Jefferson

Mark Krautmann has a special affinity for the oak woodlands and open savannas that once dominated much of the Willamette Valley.

A successful specialty nursery operator with more than 20 years in the business, Krautmann is now trying to recreate some of that historic landscape on a 388-acre property south of Salem.

He also wants to pioneer a new role for the state's nursery industry, using his company's expertise and resources to grow endangered habitats and species on a commercial scale.

Krautmann's habitat restoration effort on the slopes east of Interstate 5 near Jefferson ranks among the most ambitious private conservation projects in the Willamette Valley. Plans developed by Krautmann's project manager, botanist Lynda Boyer, and biologists for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service call for eventual restoration of 60 acres of riparian habitat and 150 acres of oak woodland, savanna and upland prairie.

Oak woodlands and savanna (grasslands with scattered trees) support some of the most diverse

assemblages of wildlife found in Oregon, providing breeding habitat for almost 200 species, including more than 70 birds. These habitats have been dramatically reduced over the past 150 years and are now among the highest priorities for bird conservation in the Willamette Valley.

Krautmann, who with his wife Jolly owns Heritage Seedlings Inc., a Salem-based grower of unusual deciduous woody ornamentals, thinks the nursery industry can play a leading role in restoring oak habitats.

"Oak savanna is mostly in private hands, and is so threatened that 99 percent of it is now gone," says Krautmann. "The nursery industry and private landowners have an opportunity and indeed a responsibility to save it."

Krautmann's project on Steiwer Hill is a large-scale experiment applying commercial agricultural techniques and technologies to restoration of native plant communities, including propagation of endangered species.

"We want to demonstrate that it's not difficult to accomplish extraordi-

nary restoration results in comparatively few years, document the steps and timing, and induce other growers to follow our example," Krautmann says.

Heritage Seedlings will try to generate some revenue from sales of native plants and seed and starters and will also select superior ornamental forms of native Oregon plants to offer to the nursery industry, but Krautmann isn't counting on it being a big money-maker.

"Frankly, a lot of this will never pay," he says, "but we will all die with the same amount of money we were born with. We just use it for a while, like everything else in our lives."

Restoration work on the Steiwer Hill property got under way earlier this year, beginning with some initial thinning of oaks, removal of invading conifers, and clearing of Himalayan blackberries, Scotch broom and other non-native plants. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife program helped fund the work. Additional funding requests have been submitted to the Fish and Wildlife Service's Private Stewardship Grants program, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Landowner Incentive Program, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

A controlled burn of the 45-acre remnant oak savanna is planned for this fall. If few native plants emerge following the fire, the next step will probably be to spray out the understory and replant it with native seeds and endangered species that are being propagated in Heritage Seedlings' nursery. Bird surveys will evaluate response to restoration efforts by western meadowlark, Oregon vesper sparrow, grasshopper sparrow, and other at-risk grassland species.

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Historic oak habitats, new role for industry



Mark and Jolly Krautmann

“OAKS COMMUNICATE A SENSE OF LONGEVITY, ENDURANCE, RESILIENCE, GRANDEUR, AND GAIN A CHARACTER OF SPIRITUALITY ABOUT THEM WITH AGE. THEY EVOKE A SENSE OF RESPECT IN ANY PERSON SENSITIVE TO THEIR QUIET DIGNITY. AN OLD MATURE OAK MAY HAVE KNOTS, HOLES, ROT AND PARASITIC MISTLETOE IN MANY OF ITS BRANCHES BUT IT QUIETLY ENDURES THESE ACHES AND PAINS AND PROVIDES SHELTER, FOOD AND COMFORT TO MANY CREATURES. IT IS BUT A SINGLE ORGANISM, BUT SHELTERS LICHENS, BIRDS, MAMMALS, INSECTS, AND OFFERS LIFE-GIVING OXYGEN IN EXCHANGE FOR CARBON DIOXIDE WITH EACH PASSING SEASON. ITS GIFT OF LIFE TO OTHER CREATURES IS MAGNIFIED BY ITS PRODUCTION OF ACORNS THAT SPROUT INTO NEW OAKS.”

“HOW COULD A PERSON LOOK AT AN OLD OREGON OAK AND BLINDLY SEE ONLY CORDS OF FIREWOOD? THAT SEEMS TO ME TO BE AN AWFULLY SHORT-SIGHTED VIEW.”

-MARK KRAUTMANN, HERITAGE SEEDLINGS INC.

Willamette Valley oak habitats

“Oak savannas covered perhaps half the ecoregion before European settlement. The savanna types have been reduced by more than 80 percent, in part due to conversion for agriculture, but also as a result of fire suppression. Fire suppression allowed many of the savannas to develop into oak woodlands and eventually forests. More than half the remaining oak woodlands are now dominated by Douglas-fir, and without active management, will eventually become conifer forests.

Remaining oak savannas and woodlands provide some of the ecoregion's most important wildlife habitat. Oregon white oak provides nesting habitat for nearly 200 wildlife species, representing all classes of terrestrial vertebrates. It is a hardy tree that can tolerate both prolonged drought and extended flooding. With the ecoregion's rapid

urbanization, this species has begun to decline sharply during the last 30 years. This decline, coupled with the tree's slow growth rate and apparent lack of regeneration, will have far-

reaching consequences to the many wildlife populations that depend on it.”
— *Oregon's Living Landscape*, Oregon Biodiversity Project (Defenders of Wildlife, 1998).



Goose Lake project strengthens habitat anchor...

Ducks Unlimited is closing in on the final piece of funding for a partnership with private landowners to restore or enhance more than nine miles of stream and 3,000 acres of wetland, riparian, and grassland habitats at the north end of Goose Lake near Lakeview.

A pending federal grant would provide \$1 million for the Goose Lake project and additional work on public lands at Summer Lake and in the Warner Valley. Final approval of the grant, funded through the North American

Wetlands Conservation Act, is expected later this summer.

The Goose Lake project involves re-establishing natural stream channels, marshes, and other native habitats on private agricultural lands in an area that hosts tens of

“More than 85 percent of the pintails marked with radio transmitters in California’s Central Valley used the area’s wetlands during their northward migration.”

thousands of migrating waterfowl and more than a dozen species of breeding waterbirds. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at one time considered the site for a new national wildlife refuge.

Straddling the Oregon-California border 70 miles east of Klamath Falls, Goose Lake is a key element in a larger complex that includes Summer and Abert lakes and the Warner Valley, some of the most

important migratory bird habitat in the Pacific Flyway.

The Goose Lake project, in the works since the late 1990s, involves four adjoining private landowners

species of migratory birds and native fish, including the endangered Modoc sucker, redband trout, and four other at-risk species.

The floodplain wetlands on the north end of Goose Lake are especially important for migrating northern pintail – a species of particular conservation concern – and more than a dozen breeding waterbirds. More than 85 percent of the pintails marked with radio transmitters while wintering in California’s Central Valley in 2002 used the area’s wetlands during their northward migration.

Mike Shannon / DU



Garrett Ranch wetlands

along the lower reaches of Thomas, Cottonwood and Drews creeks west of Lakeview. Ducks Unlimited has been working to line up habitat restoration funding from a variety of partners, including the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (\$637,000), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Private Stewardship Grants program (\$234,000) and the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service (\$171,000).

Riparian and wetland restoration is expected to benefit dozens of

large remnant of Goose Lake’s historic marshes – a 400-acre stand of hard-stem bulrush on one of the participating ranches. Formerly known as Tule Lake, the remnant marshes on the Garrett Ranch provide nesting habitat for eight species of waterfowl and a variety of uncommon breeding waterbirds, including sandhill cranes, great egrets, white-faced ibis, eared grebes, black-crowned night herons, black terns, and willets.

(continued on page 9)

Breeding waterbirds at Goose Lake

Surveys conducted by Ducks Unlimited on the 700-acre East Tule Lake tract adjacent to Goose Lake:

Forster’s terns	900	Redheads	500
Black-crowned night herons	500	Eared grebes	800
Black terns	500	Franklin’s gulls	3,000
White-faced ibis	10,000	Willetts	100
Great egrets	150	Cinnamon teal	100

...for migratory birds in southeast Oregon

Other work slated for funding under the pending North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant include:

Summer Lake: Restoration and enhancement of about 1,000 acres of wetlands within the River Ranch Unit of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Summer Lake Wildlife Area. The unit's existing water delivery system will be upgraded to allow management for expanded wet meadows and seasonal marshes.



Summer Lake Wildlife Area



Pelicans in Warner Valley

Warner Valley: Installation of a new pumping station, fish screens, and pipeline to deliver water into the Bureau of Land Management's 1,200-acre Warner Wetlands adjacent to Hart Lake. The area has traditionally been one of the most productive wetlands in the Warner Valley. Low water levels and problems with the existing water delivery system have left the marshes dry for most of the past five years.

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Donation expands Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission voted in July to accept a land donation adding a key 136-acre property to the Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area southeast of LaGrande in Union County.

The Nature Conservancy's donation of the Hot Lake property was made possible by a federal grant secured by Ducks Unlimited in 2002. The two organizations have been the lead partners in a cooperative effort with the Department of Fish and Wildlife that has protected or restored about 1,300 acres of wetlands at Ladd Marsh since the mid-1990s.

The Hot Lake addition to the wildlife area includes a wetland system fed by warm geothermal springs that provides important open-water habitat for a variety of wildlife even during the most severe winter conditions.

The Nature Conservancy had earlier acquired three tracts totaling more than 840 acres that were added to the wildlife area's ownership in 2000. Ducks Unlimited marked the

completion of its Tule Lake restoration project adjacent to the Hot Lake property with a dedication ceremony in June 2003.

The newest addition to the wildlife area does not include the impressively decaying brick building

adjacent to Hot Lake, which has gone through a variety of incarnations over the past 140 years, including stints as a resort hotel, spa, and hospital.

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Hot Lake

Eastside all-bird plan highlights priority habitats ...

Joint Venture partners have taken a first cut at identifying the highest priorities for bird habitat conservation in eastern Oregon.

The product of a pair of workshops in Bend last year, the plan developed for the Intermountain West Joint Venture represents a synthesis of conservation priorities for waterfowl, waterbirds, shorebirds, and landbirds.

The new "all bird" plan highlights 37 priority areas across eastern Oregon, based on their importance for birds, opportunities for conservation, and threats to habitat values. Formally known as the "Coordinated Implementation Plan for Bird

Conservation in Eastern Oregon," the plan also identifies 15 high priority habitat types ranging from emergent marshes and sagebrush, to aspen and ponderosa pine forests.

Some of the priority areas, like the wetlands of the Klamath and Harney basins, are well known and have long been recognized for their importance for migratory birds. Others, such as the vast sagebrush steppe habitats of the West Little Owyhee and the oak woodlands of Wasco County, have received little attention until recent years.

The new plan draws heavily on earlier plans developed by the Joint Venture (wetlands and waterfowl),

Partners in Flight (landbirds), and the Intermountain West waterbird and shorebird plans. Analysts also took into account priority areas identified by The Nature Conservancy, the Oregon Biodiversity Project, Audubon's Important Bird Areas program, and current sage grouse planning efforts.

Joint Venture planners from around the Intermountain West will begin work later this summer on establishing formal habitat objectives for each state's plan.

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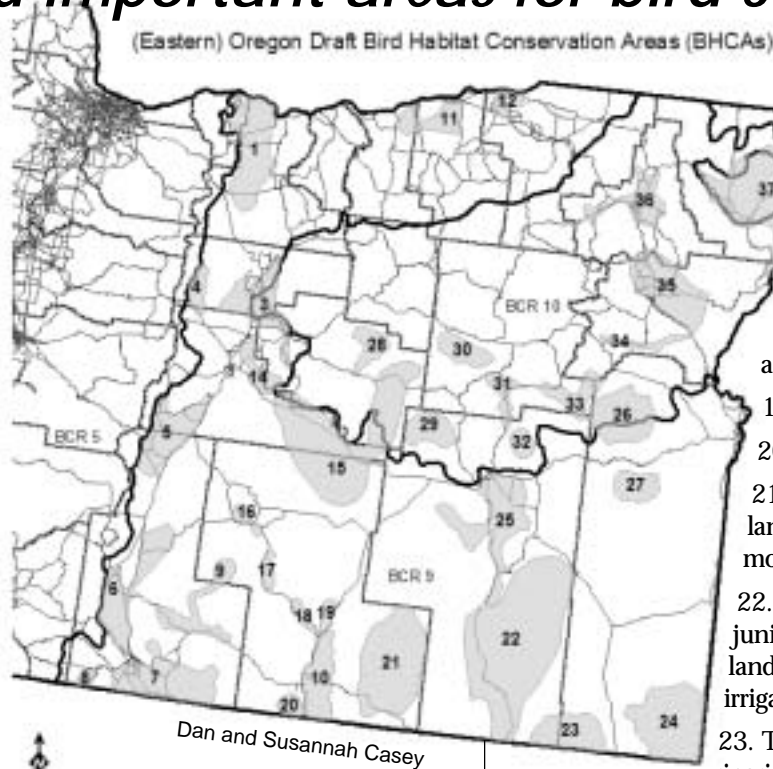
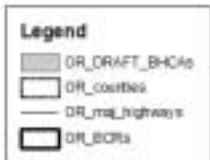
Crump Lake Wetlands in Warner Valley

High priority habitat types

- Ponderosa pine forest and woodlands
- Oak woodlands / oak-pine woodlands
- Aspen forest and woodlands
- Juniper woodlands (mature and old-growth)
- Mountain mahogany woodlands
- Cliffs and rimrock (Deschutes Basin)
- Grasslands (native)
- Sagebrush steppe
- Playas and vernal pools
- Flood-irrigated pasture and hay meadows
(Harney and Lake counties)
- Alkaline wetlands
- Emergent marsh
- Wet meadows
- Riparian woodlands
- Riparian shrub

...and important areas for bird conservation

Priority areas



15. High Desert - South Fork Crooked River. Sagebrush steppe with scattered vernal pool / playa wetlands.

16. Paulina Marsh - Silver Lake. Wetlands.

17. Summer Lake. Diverse wetland habitats.

18. Chewaucan Marsh. Wetlands and flood-irrigated hay meadows.

19. Lake Abert. Wetlands.

20. Goose Lake. Wetlands, riparian.

21. Hart Mountain complex. Wetlands, sagebrush steppe, grasslands, aspen, mountain mahogany habitats.

22. Steens - Alvord. Sagebrush steppe, juniper woodlands, high-elevation grasslands, aspen, playa, riparian, and flood-irrigated pasture/hay meadows.

23. Trout Creek Mountains. Sagebrush, riparian, aspen, mountain mahogany habitats.

24. West Little Owyhee. Sagebrush, mountain mahogany.

25. Harney Basin Wetlands. Diverse wetlands.

26. Bully Creek - Castle Rock. Sagebrush, aspen, mountain mahogany, ponderosa pine habitats.

27. Hoodoo - Cottonwood. High quality bunchgrass habitats.

Blue Mountains

28. North Fork Crooked River. Ponderosa pine forests, wetlands.

29. Emigrant Creek - Silver Creek. Ponderosa pine forests.

30. Aldrich Mountains. Grasslands, sagebrush, mountain mahogany, conifer forest, riparian.

31. Silvies - Bear Valleys. Wetlands, riparian habitats.

32. King Mountain. Ponderosa pine forests.

33. Malheur Headwaters. Ponderosa pine and other conifer forests, wet meadows, riparian habitats.

34. Burnt River. Riparian and wetlands.

35. Powder River. Wet meadows, wetlands, riparian, and sagebrush habitats.

36. Upper Grande Ronde. Wetlands, riparian habitats, ponderosa pine, montane meadows.

37. Wallowa Plateau and Canyons. Grasslands, riparian and forest habitats.

East Cascades

1. Wasco Oaks. Oak and oak-pine habitats.

2. Deschutes River Riparian. Riparian habitats.

3. Crooked River National Grassland / Lower Crooked River. Shrub steppe and grassland habitats, flood irrigated hay meadows, remnant cottonwood.

4. Metolius. Ponderosa pine forests

5. Upper Deschutes. Wetland and riparian habitats; ponderosa pine.

6. Upper Klamath Wetlands. Extensive wetland systems.

7. Lower Klamath. Extensive historic wetland systems.

8. Klamath River Canyon. Oak habitats.

9. Sprague - Sycan. Wet meadows, emergent marshes, riparian habitats.

10. Warner Mountains. Ponderosa pine forests, aspen, wetlands, sagebrush.

Columbia Plateau


11. Boardman Grasslands. Sagebrush steppe and grasslands.

12. Lower Umatilla River. Restoration potential for riparian forests, wetlands, sagebrush steppe.

13. John Day River Riparian. Riparian habitats, canyon grasslands.

14. Badlands. Old growth juniper woodlands.

About the Oregon Habitat Joint Venture



The Oregon Habitat Joint Venture is a coalition of private organizations working with government agencies to protect and restore wetlands and other important habitats through voluntary, cooperative efforts.

The joint venture helps put together partnerships for a variety of habitat conservation projects, including habitat restoration and enhancement on private and public lands, acquisition of key areas for permanent protection, and educational and interpretive programs.

The Oregon Habitat Joint Venture coordinates state-level activities for two regional partnerships implementing the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and other continental bird conservation initiatives.

The Pacific Coast Joint Venture, created in 1991, includes all of western Oregon, as well as coastal British Columbia, Washington, northern California, Alaska, and Hawaii. The Intermountain West Joint Venture, begun in 1995, covers eastern Oregon and portions of nine other western states.

This newsletter is published by the Oregon Habitat Joint Venture with financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Pacific Coast Joint Venture) and Ducks Unlimited.

Steering Committee

Audubon Society of Portland
Defenders of Wildlife
Ducks Unlimited
Greenbelt Land trust
McKenzie River Trust
North Coast Land Conservancy
Oregon Duck Hunters Association
Oregon Trout
South Coast Land Conservancy
The Nature Conservancy
The Trust for Public Land
The Wetlands Conservancy
Three Rivers Land Conservancy
Western Rivers Conservancy

Cooperating Agencies

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Oregon Division of State Lands
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
Oregon Department of Transportation
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Forest Service
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