

**URBAN ISSUES WORKING GROUP
Klamath Watershed Partnership
Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2009**

Attendees: Damion Ciotti, Jeff Hansen, Susan Honea, Dwight Long, Terry Wagstaff, Anita Ward, Jessica Asbill, Harry Vincett
Staff: Ginny Monroe

The mission of the Urban Issues Working Group of the Klamath Watershed Partnership is to promote a healthy urban watershed through education, enhancement, protection and restoration.

GOALS and OBJECTIVES:

1. Protect and restore and create habitat

- A. Protect habitat along the Link River and Lake Ewauna
- B. Restore/Create Wetlands around Lake Ewauna Trail (LET)
- C. Manage uplands and drainage (juniper, erosion, storm water runoff)
- D. Enhance communication among partners

2. Educate the public (regarding watershed issues in the urban areas)

- A. Non-point source education
- B. Interpretive signage for Lake Ewauna Trail (OR 150?)
- C. Resource guides (green pages, KCEDA/Klamath Sustainable Communities)
- D. Establish the Partnership as a clearinghouse for information and resources to enhance the watershed

3. Develop a trail system (connect existing and develop new systems)

- A. Connect trails from the Running Y to Rails to Trails (Buck Ridge, Ridgewater, Moore Park, Link River, Wing Watchers, City Parks around Lake Ewauna, Conger Heights)
 - i. Research history of 4 years ago (minutes Sandra Z.)
 - ii. Reconvene group w/old and new players/stakeholders
- B. Develop design standards for various trail components (furnish, signs, lighting, surface)
- C. Obtain funds and specify participants

Today's Discussion:

Protect, restore and create habitat - Report from Damion Ciotti, US Fish & Wildlife Service

- The FWS has identified some parts of the Wing Watchers trail which are eroding away. They are looking at requesting funding to do a small project this year using a technique that has been successful for coastal erosion. This project involves vegetation plantings of trees and sedges. Last summer as part of a project they planted this vegetation at Lake Ewauna and the plants seem to be doing well. Damion said they have found several domestic geese using wetlands, new to the area, which may be causing some of the erosion.

Educate the Public – Ginny Monroe, Klamath Watershed Partnership

- Non-Point Source Pollution Education
Ginny Monroe provided a follow-up on the Earth Day event at OIT. Ginny and Susan Honea, OSU, staffed the booth using the new Non-Point Source Pollution display board. Ginny asked the group to email additional pictures to use on the board.
- Klamath Watershed Partnership website
The new Klamath Watershed Partnership website will be up and running on Friday, May 15th. Ginny encouraged UI members to join ning, the social network for the UI working group. This is where Ginny will now post the meeting minutes and upcoming events. Contact Ginny if you have problems signing up or if you have any questions.

Migratory Bird Day

Susan Honea reported that the Migratory Bird was a huge success. There were between 1000-1300 people in attendance. This was the first year they had the 1 mile run for kids and a 5k for adults, which brought out a lot of people. Susan asked those who attended to provide feedback to help plan next years event.

There was a discussion about the NPS education funding available through the Klamath County Drainage Service District which is over seen by Klamath County Public Works. A detailed request must be submitted to them prior to the beginning of their funding cycle which beings on July 1. After discussion about what types of education would be most cost effective, the group came up with the following list

- Paint the town Blue/Stenciling
- TV ads/ Radio ads
- Flier in water bill with coupon for a discount at a business
- Printing and design costs for standard brochures
- Costs for venues, i.e.: Klamath County Fair, Earth Day, etc.
- Design and posting costs for Kiosks around town.

Other options:

- Advertisement in the phone book

- Front Page stickers with coupons posted on the Herald and News.
- Bill Boards
- AmeriCorps Volunteer – help with NPS education
- Water quality in Lake Ewauna – will be addressed in 2010

Ginny Monroe will research costs for each item and provide information to the group by the next meeting

NEXT MEETING:

Date: June 22, 2009
Time: 1-3 pm
Place: USFWS Conference Room