Accomplishments >>>

- Strengthening Partnerships
- Project Development
- Successful Grant Writing
- Workshops & Articles
- Project Implementation

“promoting ecological, economic and community well-being in the Applegate watershed through on-the-ground projects and strategic collaborations.”

APPLEGATE PARTNERSHIP & WATERSHED COUNCIL

2012-2013 >>>

Beating Back Conflict
APWC’s Long History of Collaboration

The APWC has a long history of collaboration with a vast venue of private and public interests in landscape management. The first efforts began in 1992 when a group of concerned people gathered to seek solutions to the “lizards vs. logs” conflict on U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service lands. Residents had grown weary of the constant conflict and battles that had degraded community life over the previous decade. It was generally concluded that natural resource management and environmental quality were not mutually exclusive and that common ground solutions could be found if everyone rolled up their sleeves and worked together. We soon discovered that the ecological concerns were not limited to timber harvest on public lands, but included housing expansion, land use laws, agriculture, road maintenance, traffic, water quality, air quality, private land habitat loss, restoration needs, community well-being, neighbor relations and many other social issues.

In 1994 the APWC was approached by the State of Oregon to act as the Watershed Council for the Applegate Valley in support of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. Since the inception of the APWC has become the implementing group for restoration projects primarily on private lands in the Applegate. There has been successful shift in the management approaches taken by private landowners as well as public land managers in the Applegate Valley.

The Middle Applegate Dry Forest Restoration Pilot Project is a great example of the success of collaborative efforts. This project is a demonstration based on the dry forest restoration principles developed by Drs. Jerry F. Franklin and K. Norman Johnson. In December 2010, Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar designated several landscape-scale pilot projects in southwest Oregon to demonstrate the application of the Franklin and Johnson restoration principles, support regional workforce and milling infrastructure and to build public support for the active restoration of federal forests.

The APWC is currently actively collaborating with the USFS, BLM, SO Forest Restoration Collaborative, Williams Creek WC, Rogue Basin Coordinating Council and many more to support, through community involvement and education, management of all lands within the Applegate watershed in a manner that provides a sustainable yield of natural resources and that contributes to economic and community well-being within the Applegate valley.

The Board & Staff

The APWC Board members are all local residents of the Applegate Valley. Their distribution ranges from the north end to the south end of the valley.

We have 9 currently active board members and a plethora of institutional knowledge.

The APWC has been in a restructuring phase the past couple years. We are currently up to 3 part-time grant funded staff members.

- Coordinator: Janelle Dunlevy (coordinator@apwc.info/541-899-9982)
- Riparian Program Manager: Jakob Shockey
- In-stream Habitat Restoration Program Manager: Chas Rogers

For more information go to www.apwc.info

APPLEGATE VALLEY

The Applegate Valley is located in the Klamath/Siskiyou Province. Its terrain is the most topographically and ecologically diverse landscape in North America. Second only to China for its diversity.

262,400 Acres in Jackson County
172,800 Acres in Josephine County
68% Publicly Managed Land
55% Forested
2% Range
18% Non-Range Ag
13% Rural Residential
215.8 Miles of Stream Listed as 303(d)

Applegate Partnership & Watershed Council

4th Field HUC
493,000 Acres (770 sq. miles)

APWC Annual Report 2013

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“Beating Back Conflict”
APWC’s Long History of Collaboration

For almost 23 years the Applegate Partnership has worked diligently to collaborate with all facets of landscape management, from private to federal landowners, environmental groups to not environmental groups and global warming to climate change. The Applegate is proof that Resolution, Understanding, Compromise and Sustainable Management can rise out of Conflict.
Preventing for Future Projects

The APWC has been reinvigorating itself the last few years. We have new program managers, new projects, new ideas and a very active Aquatic & Riparian Committee.

Projects to be Further Developed and Funded

- Thompson Creek Irrigation Efficiency Project
- Barrier Removals on Slate & Thompson Creek
- Butcherknife Creek Culvert Replacement
- Iron Creek Culvert & Habitat Restoration
- Laurel Hill Ditch Fish Passage Improvement Project

Grant Funded Projects

- Applegate Riparian Restoration Program
- Slate Creek & Thompson Creek Barrier Assessment Update
- Thompson Creek Habitat Restoration Project
- Bridgepoint Point of Division Project on Williams Creek
- Little Applegate Measuring Device Project
- Beaver Creek Stream Sediment Reduction Project

Collaborative Projects

- BLM Pilot Joe Project
- Middle Applegate Multiparty Monitoring Initiative
  (Thank you to this group for information/photos contributed to this report)
- BLM Pilot Thompson Project
- Provoit Seed Orchard Long Term Lease Proposal
- Williams Community Forest Project

APWC Efforts Support the Local Economy

The APWC’s mission is to promote ecosystem health across the Applegate watershed through stewardship, education and restoration carried out in partnership with landowners, agencies and other interested parties while contributing to local economic and community well-being.

The APWC has thrived to work with local professionals to successfully complete our project and grant requirements. Through our Riparian, In-stream Habitat & Education Programs we have over provided the local and greater Rogue Basin economy with over $150,000 in the last 2 years and will be increasing those numbers in the near future.

The proposed Thompson Creek Restoration site encompasses 10 private landholdings along both sides of approximately 1.8 miles of stream in the Thompson Creek sub-basin, between reach mile 5 and 7 of Thompson Creek. The APWC will be implementing restoration activities that include reconfiguring floodplains through levee decommissioning and channel modification, improving stream habitat complexity through large wood additions, reducing sediment loads via bank stabilization, and rehabilitating riparian plant communities.

The initiation of this project is the outcome of a Thompson Creek Assessment and Action Plan, funded by OWEB in 2009. This assessment galvanized landowner participation through extensive landowner surveys performed by SOU students and restoration workshops presented by the APWC. Aquatic Monitoring of Thompson Creek, including habitat survey and continuous temperature monitoring was also funded by OWEB in 2012 as part of larger Applegate Basin Monitoring Program. Development of the Applegate’s TDM Implementation plan, as part of Jackson County’s Water Quality Improvement Plan, recognized Thompson Creek as a priority restoration area in the Applegate sub-basin.

In addition to leveraging successes and prioritization from past projects, the Thompson Creek sub-basin is a strategic target for watershed restoration for unique biological and physiographic reasons. The Thompson Creek Action Plan found that Thompson Creek had the greatest fish distribution of the middle Applegate tributaries, with Coho Salmon extending up to mile 9, Chinook to mile 1, Steelhead to mile 10.8, and Trout to mile 12.8. However, Thompson Creek is listed by the EPA as a 303(d) water quality limited stream due to temperature, making it a good target for riparian restoration to improve stream shading and cool stream reaches.

Thompson Creek habitat surveys also found that many reaches lack complex pools and large wood, making it undesirable habitat by ODFW benchmarks and further prioritizing it for stream restoration treatments. The recently released Northern Spotted Owl recovery plan also identified 55% of the Thompson Creek watershed as critical habitat for northern spotted owl recovery. Enhancing riparian refuges on private lands could contribute to the habitat connectivity needed for spotted owl recovery. Finally, the low stream gradient of the proposed reaches (50% of Thompson Creek has <4% slope from Ninemile Creek to the Applegate River) makes Thompson Creek an inherently suitable site for successful in-stream, riparian, and floodplain restoration efforts.

The APWC has received over $250,000 in grant funding and in-kind agency and landowner match for this project. A lot of work has gone into organizing and fostering relationships with the local community to initiate this project.

The following have helped make this Project Possible through grant funding:

- OWEB
- The Freshwater Trust
- Blue Skies Grant Program

The Cost of Conservation

Inflation has not just hit the grocery store or the housing market, the price of gasoline or your family station wagon. Inflation and increased competition affects the amount of work that watershed councils can effectively put on the ground.

Our Thompson Creek Habitat Restoration Project is working with 2 miles of stream and over 10 landowners. We have begun working on two adjacent landowners parcels, clearing invasive species and replanting with native riparian plants.

Through the removal of the blackberries we have found floodplain and side channel habitat for salmonids. But it all comes at a price.

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APWC Meeting Dates, Time & Locations

- General Board Meetings
  4th Thursday of Each Month 6:30pm-8:30pm
  @ The Applegate Library
- Aquatic & Riparian Committee
  2nd Wednesday of Each Month 3pm-5pm
  @ The Applegate Library
- Agendas and Minutes to our meetings can be found at www.apwc.info/agendas-minutes/
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The following have helped make this project Possible through grant funding:

- O’Brien Ditch managed by the Thompson Creek Irrigation Association
- Partnering to provide cross-lease opportunities for the users and Thompson Creek
- BLM Pilot Joe Project
- Middle Applegate Multiparty Monitoring Initiative
- BLM Pilot Thompson Project
- Provolt Seed Orchard Long Term Lease Proposal
- Williams Community Forest Project

Thompson Creek Habitat Restoration Project

This project brings landowners, professionals and agency biologists together as partners to rehabilitate a stream that has witnessed floods, human alteration, and years of good old fashioned hard work on the land. Now we can give back a little to the inhabitants of the stream.

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The Applegate Partnership & Watershed Council

APWC's Long History of Collaboration

Beating Back Conflict

2013 Annual Report

APW's Annual Report

Strategic collaborations on-the-ground projects and outcomes

APWC is a local community organization that works to promote ecological, economic and community well-being in the Applegate Valley.

Accomplishments

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- Strengthening Partnerships through Project Development Successful Grant Writing Workshops & Articles.
- Project Implementation on-the-ground Projects and Strategic Collaborations.

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