

FALL · 2022

# LCUWC NEWSLETTER

Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council

## Staying Connected

In an effort to create a communication platform for project stakeholders, partners, and our community, the Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council (LCUWC) will be producing a Fall and Spring newsletter. This newsletter is another way to keep you informed and engaged as restoration work throughout the county develops. We plan to provide project status updates, share about programs, provide resources and information, and let you know about upcoming events. If you have a project you would like to feature to complement our efforts, please reach out to us.



## This issue:

Stream and Riparian  
Project Status Report

Upland Project  
Status Report

Small Grant Program

Education and Outreach

Information and Resources

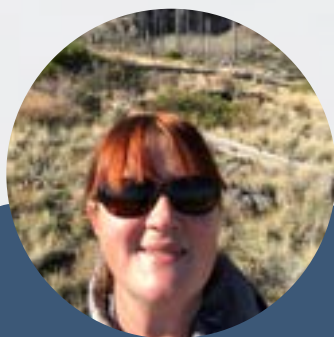
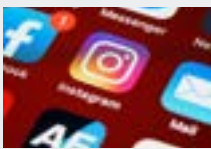
Other

# LAKE COUNTY UMBRELLA WATERSHED COUNCIL

## BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tom O'Leary - Silver Lake  
Matt Withers - Upper Sycan  
Jack O'Leary - Upper Chewaucan  
Roger Linton - Crooked Creek  
Pete Talbott - Goose Lake  
John Taylor - Warner Basin

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# Stream and Riparian

## Warner Basin

Project	Status
Relict Diversion	Crest elevation will be modified in the fall of 2022
Starveout Diversion	Monitoring
Town Assessment	Grant proposal submitted Oct. 2022
Givans Diversion	Phase I complete, Phase II in planning
Middle Diversion	Removed in September, Pipeline upgrades in progress
O'Keeffe Diversion	Baffles to be implemented in the fall of 2022
Warner Sucker Effectiveness Monitoring	Effectiveness Monitoring will take place on O'Keeffe Diversion in spring of 2023
Camas Creek Beaver Dam Analogs	Implemented in October, will monitor throughout year



**Deep Creek Middle Diversion Removal - Thomas Creek Construction LLC (Sept)**



**Pipeline Improvements Across Deep Creek - Thomas Creek Construction LLC (Oct)**



**Camas Creek Beaver Dam Implementation - Coyote Moon LLC set over 400 posts to support 14 structures (Oct)**



**Relict Diversion Modification - planned for November**

# Stream and Riparian

## Abert /Summer/ Silver Lake Basin

Project	Status
Upper Chewaucan Watershed Assessment	In Progress
Chewaucan River Streambank Stabilization	Grant Agreement Signed, Compliance work will take place over winter
Strategic Implementation Area Water Quality Study	Samples collected every 2 weeks, fire impacts still evident
Campbell Mill Wetland and Aspen Enhancement	Grant Agreement Signed, Compliance work will take place over winter



**Dairy Creek in the summer of 2021 - streambanks along this reach were treated in 2015, riparian vegetation shows the effectiveness of project.**



**Elder Creek in the summer of 2021 - Beaver work backs up water in meadow.**



# Stream and Riparian

## Goose Lake Basin

Project	Status
Thomas Creek Amsbaugh Fish Passage	Implementation in Progress, nearing completion
Cogswell Creek Fish Passage and Irrigation Improvement	Implementation in Progress, nearing completion
Muddy Creek Fish Passage	Funded - additional funds from Open River Legacy
Cox Creek Fish Passage and Screening	Funded - will work on compliance through winter
Cottonwood Creek Fish Habitat Enhancement	Partially Funded - awaiting Desert Fish Habitat Partnership Grant
Cottonwood Creek Post Fire Recovery	Fully Funded, Phase I Planning and Implementation Underway
Drews Creek Fish Passage and Stream Restoration	Not Funded, revised and re-submitted to OWEB
Three Creeks Low Tech Process Based Restoration	Phase I complete
Goose Lake Water Conservation Feasibility Study	Funded, Meet with water users and River Design Group in November to set schedule



**Thomas Creek Amsbaugh Fish Bypass Channel - Dog Lake Construction (Oct)**



**Thomas Creek Amsbaugh Diversion Railcar Bridge, placed to help remove stop panels - Dog Lake Construction (Oct)**



**Cogswell Creek Culvert Removal and Bridge Placement Fish Passage - Pardue Construction LLC (Oct)**



**Cogswell Creek Irrigation Diversion, fish screen is in planning - Pardue Construction LLC (Oct)**

**Three Creeks Processed Based Restoration - Swift Water Designs (Oct)**



# Uplands

## Awarded Grant Projects-current

Project	Status
Mini FIP Phase 1 (OWEB)	To date over 751 acres have been cut and piled on private land (exceeding our goals). There are approx. 75 acres left in contracts to be completed by Spring of 2024.
Prescribed Fire TA (OWEB)	Schedule landowner meetings and create burn plans
Prescribed Fire (RAC)	Wait for TA progress to implement burns
Summer Lake Wildfire Risk Reduction (BLM)	Contractors hired, units flagged, work in progress
Summer Lake Wildfire Risk Reduction (RAC)	Over 35% completed, progress continues
South Warner Forest Health Mapping and Inventory TA (OWEB)	Inventory complete, mapping in progress. Will schedule workshops for the spring.



**Summer Lake Wildfire Risk Reduction (Oct)**



**Training the LCRI inventory crews for the South Warner Project**



**Prescribed Fire**



**Old growth juniper saved for Monitoring Photo Point**



# Uplands

## Future Grant Applications-current

Project	Status
LCALRI FIP (OWEB) \$12 million	Not awarded (fell below the funding threshold). Will reapply in January
ODF S&P \$5 million	Awarded! Begin planning for implementation
America the Beautiful Challenge \$5 million	Not awarded (nationwide competition did not rank high enough)
American Forest Foundation \$20,000	Awarded. Spend on outreach and education.
2021 Post Fire Recovery Cougar Peak/Patton Meadow Wildfires \$2.5 million	Awaiting review
Mini FIP Phase 2 (OWEB) \$400,000	Awaiting review
Summer Lake All Lands (OWEB) \$260,000	Awaiting Review



**Summer Lake All Lands-proposal to continue forest health treatments**



**Patton Meadows Wildfire-proposal to restore and recover impacted areas**



**Mini FIP Phase 2-proposal to continue aspen and meadow enhancements**



**Identification and location documentation of noxious weeds and invasive annual grasses-Medusahead**

# Small Grant Program

The Small Grant Program is an easy-to-engage-in, competitive grant program that awards up to \$15,000 for on-the-ground restoration projects principally carried out on private lands across Oregon. This program responds to a need for local decision-making about watershed restoration opportunities on a shorter timeframe than is available under OWEB's regular grant program.

The Small Grant Program enables landowners across the state to contribute to the [Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds](#) and the [Oregon Conservation Strategy](#) by committing "small acts of kindness" on their properties for the benefit of water quality, water quantity, and fish and wildlife. From planting native plants along stream sides to reducing sedimentation and erosion from upland farms and ranches, citizens everywhere can make a difference. - Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board



**Lower Dreads Creek Small Grant Project aims to implement riparian fence, off-creek livestock water, and processed based restoration strategies in-stream.**

Project	Status
Yocum Valley Upland Enhancement	Finished, need to submit completion report
Lower Dreads Creek Habitat Enhancement	Funded
Crooked Creek Streambank Stabilization	Under Development
Dry Creek Off-Site Water Development	Under Development
Poirier Upland Enhancement	Completed, requires future monitoring
Doolittle Upland Enhancement	Completed, requires future monitoring
LeGaux Upland Enhancement	Completed, requires future monitoring



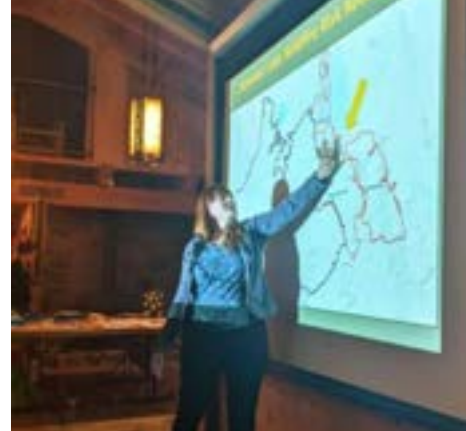
**Hand pile of non-commercial thinning efforts that will be burned in 12-18 months**



# Education and Outreach



The Camas Creek restoration project included students from Daly Middle and Lakeview High School. Students learned about stream restoration and the value of beavers working in a system. Students and volunteers worked to implement the project.



Autumn Muir presents at the Summer Lake Wildfire Risks Workshop in October. Autumn describes grant funds being used to target fuel reduction projects in the Summer Lake area.



Students collecting willows with Nick Kilby from Think Wild.



Volunteers from Think Wild and Beaverworks of Oregon along with Partners Biologist Dirk Renner.



## Macro-invertebrates

Sophomores from Lakeview High School collect and observe populations of macro-invertebrates along Camas Creek.



## Observations

Students learned that macro-invertebrate population size and diversity can indicate health of stream reach.



# INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

## NRCS Program

*The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is taking applications for the next Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) signup. The CSP aims to support agriculture producers in improving grazing conditions, increasing crop resiliency, or developing wildlife habitat. Contact the local office or visit their new website to learn more.*



Watch List

"Through the Fire: Restoring Forest Resilience"

## Mark Your Calendar

### All Irrigation Lunch and Learn

November 17, 2022  
10 :00- 1:30  
Lake County Extension Office

### KLFHP Meetings

Third Thursdays  
9:00-12:00  
Kfalls ODF Office

### Weeds and Watershed Annual Gathering

January,12 2023  
Location TBD

"Using Virtual Fencing to Create Fuel  
Breaks in the Sagebrush Steppe"

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1550742422000720>

## Articles

"In Montana, you're only a week away  
from a drought": Ranchers'  
perspectives on flood irrigation and  
beaver mimicry as drought mitigation  
strategies.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0190052822000268>