

North Fork John Day Watershed Council Strategic Plan

Approved by the Board of Directors
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North Fork John Day Watershed Council
PO Box 444
Long Creek, OR 97856

NFJDWC Board of Directors:

Rick Henslee – Chairman, Long Creek
John Zakrajsek – Secretary/Treasurer, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Mark Rietmann – Morrow County
Reiba Smith – Long Creek
Jerry Eboltoft – Long Creek
Geoff Loftin – Monument
Leslie Stillwater – John Day

NFJDWC Staff:

Elaine Eisenbraun, Executive Director
Kathy Hardt – Business Manager
Gail Beverlin – Education Coordinator
Valeen Madden – Private Lands Coordinator
Mark Bagett – Public Lands Coordinator
Justin Rowell – Public Lands Coordinator
Lineah Barnett – Administrative Assistant and Technician

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1 INTRODUCTION

About this Plan

The North Fork John Day Watershed Council (Council) developed this strategic plan to guide the Council's activities over the next five years. Board members, with input from interested stakeholders, determined the goals and objectives. The plan was completed in December 2015 and was adopted by the Board of Directors on April 19, 2016.

This strategic plan may be revised and updated by the Board of Directors as necessary.

About the Council

The North Fork John Day Watershed Council is a private, nonprofit 501(c) (3) corporation devoted to protecting and enhancing the watershed of the North and Middle Forks of the John Day River. The watershed encompasses about 1.7 million acres in Grant, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, and Wheeler Counties, Oregon. The watershed's 1,200 residents live in the small, rural communities of Monument, Long Creek, Ukiah, and Granite and on scattered ranches and homesteads throughout the area, where ranching, forestry, and other natural resource centered activities form the basis of the economy.

2 SCOPE AND VISION

The Council works with local landowners, user groups, federal and state agencies, and the Tribes to protect, restore, and enhance the upland, meadow, flood plain, and riparian ecosystems of the watershed of the North and Middle Forks of the John Day River.

The Council supports community values and local economies. The Council encourages communication and cooperation among landowners and interest groups, leading to balanced decisions for the management of the watershed.

Mission Statement

To participate in the planning, funding and implementation of projects that enhance and sustain a healthy North/Middle Fork John Day Watershed, support tribal cultures, and strengthen the long term stability of individuals and communities that rely on the Watershed's natural resources.

3 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Restoration Program Goal: Improve processes that support upland, meadow, floodplain, riparian and instream conditions and habitats.

Objective 1. Support landowners and land management agencies in the restoration, protection and improvement of the watershed and wildlife habitat.

Objective 2. Support landowners and management agencies in improving land management strategies that complement their operation and natural processes/wildlife.

Weed and Invasive Species Program Goal: Help Reduce Noxious Weeds and Manage Detrimental and Invasive Plants and Animals in the Watershed.

Objective 1. Facilitate cooperation among landowners and public agencies working on weed control and prevention.

Objective 2. Investigate and promote ecologically sound use of herbicides and alternative weed control and prevention methods. Promote planting of native plants.

Objective 3. Increase landowner participation in cooperative noxious weed control efforts through outreach and education.

Objective 4. Assist local, state and federal agencies in researching impacts of invasive species and assist in management measures.

Monitoring Program Goal: Continue Long-term water quality, streamflow, temperature, macro-invertebrate, and meteorological monitoring. Observe trends and cumulative effects.

Objective 1. Collect, maintain and provide access to watershed data.

Objective 2. Coordinate with state and federal agencies to support existing monitoring programs.

Objective 3. Engage local schools and community volunteers in data collection and monitoring activities.

Objective 4. Extend data collection, maintenance, and access to areas not currently monitored while respecting landowner privacy.

Education & Outreach Program Goal: Provide economic and social benefits to local communities. Strengthen local support for successful watershed restoration.

Objective 1. Focus education and outreach on the importance of proper riparian, floodplain and hydrologic function and whole system health.

Objective 2. Encourage collaborative restoration efforts.

Objective 3. Share information.

Objective 4. Provide educational opportunities and seasonal employment for local youth.

Internal/Organizational Goal: Support the mission of the Council with adequate funding, human resources, and administrative systems.

Objective 1. Investigate and pursue for-profit activities consistent with the mission of the Watershed Council.

Objective 2. Design watershed restoration, protection and improvement projects to leverage the use of funding, cost share, and institutional resources.

Objective 3. Continue fundraising.

Objective 4. Develop recruitment and retention plans for board and staff members.

4 PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The Council's Board of Directors maintains fiduciary control of the Council and the responsibilities of hiring, supporting, and supervising the Executive Director. The Board is primarily responsible for decisions each year that set the direction of the organization. The Board will:

- Adopt a fundraising plan
- Adopt an education and outreach plan
- Adopt a budget
- Ensure effective council operations through periodic discussions with the Executive Director

The goals and objectives listed in this plan will be used in the annual work planning process. Work plan development will be led by the staff and submitted for Board approval along with an annual budget.

The staff, supervised by the Executive Director, will:

- Develop Annual Work Plans
- Assist in development of annual budgets
- Develop, coordinate, and manage projects or complete duties as assigned.

Board and other non-staff volunteers will be asked to participate in the following ways:

- Participate in fund raising
- Represent the Council in public outreach assignments
- Write grant proposals and submissions
- Critique and monitor projects. Submit project ideas.
- Recruit new Board members and landowners interested in working with the Council