

## March 13 and 14 Vernal Pool Workshop Summary

In 2011 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service finalized a 5-year programmatic biological opinion regarding the Programmatic Formal Consultation on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Vernal Pool Conservation Strategy for Jackson County, Oregon. [Vernal Pool Biological Opinion](#)

In 2012 the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Oregon Department of State Lands finalized a regional general permit and general permit respectively that addressed the regulations of activities in vernal pools. [Corps and DSL RGP/GP](#)

In 2012 the USFWS, the Corps of Engineers, and the DSL drafted a Vernal Pool Assessment Methodology (VPAM). [VPAM](#)

This workshop provided an opportunity for the USFWS, the Corps of Engineers, and the DSL to present information to the public regarding these efforts. Below is a short summary of the workshop and links to the powerpoint presentations.

**March 13, 2013** PM 4-6 pm

**RGP/GP rollout:** The purpose of this session was to learn more about the Corps' Regional General Permit and DSL's General Permit for Jackson County as it applies to vernal pools.

Representatives from the Corps, DSL and FWS provided overviews of their respective processes related to project development in vernal pool ecosystems in Jackson County.

**March 14, 2013** AM 8 to noon

**Review of the VP Assessment Methodology:** The purpose of this review was to provide a training opportunity regarding use of the Vernal Pool Assessment Methodology (VPAM). The session was at the Medford Water Commission's Duff Plant, located at the intersection of Table Rock Road and Kirtland Road. The session provided a short walk through of the VPAM as well as some field verification. Input from this session will be used to finalize the VPAM.

*8 – 9 am*

Introductions and overview

Highlight changes made to the VPAM document

Regulatory Guidance interface

*9 – 11 am*

Conduct field visits walk-throughs of the VPAM at the locations below:

VPC 05 MWC – Explanation of indicators with most bearing

VPC 06 ODFW –users practice

VPC 25 ODFW – users practice

*11 am – noon*

wrap up