

Final Project Report to US Fish and Wildlife

FWS Agreement # 1448-13420-01-J146

Title: Strategic Conservation Planning: Habitat Component

Date of Report: April 7, 2002

Project Time Period: August 13, 2001 – April 7, 2002

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Project Description

Three Rivers Land Conservancy coordinated a planning effort to identify priority geographic areas to guide its future conservation efforts in metropolitan Portland.

Actual Work tasks implement and Project timeline

September 2001

Collected planning documents, reports and gathered ecological significance information in north Willamette valley

Organized committee members to commit time to the project

Committee met seven times from September through January

October 2001

Developed and mailed surveys to 110 greenspaces stakeholders

Telephone interviews and follow-up to obtain 60 responses to survey

Attended various meetings to gather information and distribute surveys

Information gathering on opportunities, threats and natural resources

November 2001

Map preparation for discussion forums

Two Discussion Forums Held (one in each county)

Site tours of prospective project areas with committee members and staff

Ongoing information gathering

December 2001 – January 2002

One Discussion Forum held

Committee met to discuss conservation priorities with information gathered.

Ranking criteria for priority areas is discussed and debated by committee.

Continued partner development

Report drafted

Committee review of report

Maps obtained from Metro highlighting focus areas to get more detailed information on proposed project areas.

Coordinated with Metro Data Center to produce report quality map.

Informed Three Rivers' board on committee progress

February 2002

Presented final report to the board February 13, 2002 for board adoption

Board Adopted Report

Bowers concludes her work for Conservancy by organizing files.

March-April 2002

Executive Director distributes report through mailings and attendance at meetings

Report to Metro Greenspaces Staff and GTAC due on April 15th

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Project staff partners and their roles

Three Rivers' Staff Members:

Virginia Bowers – provided staff support to the planning process including meeting coordination, information gathering and map preparation

Jayne Cronlund – provided background information, supervision and guidance on the prioritization process, attended meetings

Committee Members:

The people listed below served on the Conservation Planning Committee. This committee met seven times over the course of five months. The committee's task was to identify priority or focus areas within metropolitan Portland where high value natural resources AND threat of development, AND opportunity to protect these lands.

Will Werner – Tualatin Riverkeepers

Jennifer Thompson – US Fish and Wildlife

Heather Nelson Kent – Metro Greenspaces Program

Barbara Coles – Environmental Planning Consultant

David Smith – Wildlife biologist

Joseph Neary – Three Rivers board member

Jason Miner – Fish biologist and Three Rivers board member

Stephanie Wagner – Tryon Creek executive director and Three Rivers board member

Description of Project Area

The committee was charged with reviewing the entire north Willamette Valley for conservation opportunities. Generally, the land west of Sandy River and Mt. Hood National Forest, east of the state forest lands in the coastal range, and north of the Mollala River and south of Scappoose. The board gave the committee direction that areas impacted by urban/suburban development were of highest concern in the metropolitan Portland boundary. The map in the enclosed final report highlights the selected project areas.

Description of methods used to implement the project

The main method used was a standard planning process that utilized surveying, telephone interviews, and discussion forums. The Conservation Committee met and reviewed this information and prepared the final report to the Board of Directors. The board then adopted the committee's report.

On-going tasks that continue beyond the term of agreement

The Conservancy must now develop specific strategies for each Level 1 Focus area and funding to pursue these strategies. The first step will be to do a feasibility study for each area by more carefully defining the resource in need of protection, finding willing partners, and determining funding needs and sources. There should be a wide spectrum of implementing strategies.

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The Conservancy should now meet with Metro acquisition staff and follow-up on other contacts made during the planning process. Partners can help TRLC with landowner contacts, understanding the watershed or areas better, combine forces in writing grant applications and distributing information.

Summary of expenditures and project costs.

Please see attached expenditures summary and project costs. The only major deviation from the budget is the mapping resources. Metro Data Center was able to provide excellent quality mapping products at a significantly reduced savings. Thus, the mapping budget was greatly reduced for the project. Other costs included report production, printing, postage and meeting supplies. The mapping savings is reflected by a reduced reimbursement request of \$8,200 down from \$10,000.

Summary and Conclusions

This Conservation Planning Process is vital for directing limited Three Rivers' staff resources in preserving land throughout metropolitan Portland. Rather than scattering our effort across a wide area, Conservancy staff now have guidance to pursue specific objectives with identified partners to achieve conservation goals in designated areas.

Three Rivers will now attempt to secure resources to work with identified partners in these focus areas. Partnerships will be the key to Three Rivers' land conservation success. Three Rivers will continue to enhance private involvement in land conservation throughout metropolitan Portland using this document as guiding principles.

Supplemental Information

The formal Conservation Strategies Plan is attached which provides detailed information on the planning process and results.

**Three Rivers Land Conservancy:
Conservation Planning Expenditures
US Fish and Wildlife Grant 2001
FWS#1448-13420-01-J146**

Bowers Gross Wages
Breakdown

Item	Reimburs- able Cost	Match
Maps	\$ 1,181	
Printing	\$ 470	
Postage	\$ 132	
Supplies	\$ 465	
Mileage	\$ 46	
Payroll Taxes	\$ 456	
Bowers' gross income	\$ 5,453	
	\$ 8,203	

1-Oct-01	\$811.75	
15-Oct-01	\$620.50	
1-Nov-01	\$692.75	
15-Nov-01	\$569.50	
1-Dec-01	\$569.50	
15-Dec-01	\$675.75	
1-Jan-02	\$297.50	
15-Jan-02	\$612.00	
1-Feb-02	\$603.50	\$5,452.75

Hours Rate

Committee member time	\$ 4,480	112	\$40.00
Forum participants	\$ 2,080	52	\$40.00
Executive Director time	\$ 6,400	160	\$40.00
Board Member Strategic Planning (incl. Cons. Plan Review)	\$ 5,200	130	\$40.00
Strategic Planning Cons.	\$ 4,000		
Office Overhead	\$ 2,500		
Park plans/assessments	\$ 90		
Reports	\$ 15		
Maps	\$ 50		
Forum meeting space	\$ 150		
Subtotal	\$ 24,965		

Grand Total \$ 8,203 \$ 24,965



Three Rivers Land Conservancy Conservation Strategies Plan

February 13, 2002

Three Rivers
LAND CONSERVANCY

Keeping Natural Areas Close to Home

Three Rivers Land Conservancy Conservation Strategies Plan

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INTRODUCTION

This Conservation Plan presents the recommendations of the Conservation Planning Committee to the Board of Three Rivers Land Conservancy. The committee's task was to establish the scope of the Conservancy's land conservation efforts for the next 3 years and beyond. The committee recommends using a priority level system to organize the priority focus areas – Level 1 being the highest priority areas. This report also outlines the background and planning process the committee went through to arrive at their recommendations, as well as next steps and implementation strategies.

BACKGROUND

Three Rivers Land Conservancy (TRLC) is a non-profit land conservation organization dedicated to promoting and preserving natural areas, scenic and recreation areas, wildlife habitat and historic lands in metropolitan Portland. A number of forces in metropolitan Portland caused TRLC to revisit its mission and protection efforts. These factors include: population growth and loss of open space in the metropolitan area, reduction of regional funding for land acquisition, new sources of land acquisition dollars, increasing public awareness of TRLC and our programs throughout the region, and an ability to leverage private donations.

These external factors led TRLC to adopt a 3-Year Strategic Plan in 2001. The plan guides TRLC's preservation efforts in metropolitan Portland. The first goal of the plan is land conservation - "*The Conservancy will preserve and protect natural areas to maintain the unique identity of metropolitan Portland.*" Three objectives support this goal: 1) preserve land with scenic and ecological significance in areas threatened by imminent development; 2) preserve and create pathways and access to natural areas; 3) preserve neighborhood special places. Three tasks were listed under objective #1: 1) identify ecological criteria; 2) identify scenic criteria; and 3) identify target areas, including (but not limited to) Stafford Basin, Balch Creek and Johnson Creek.

To help define objective #1 of goal #1, TRLC formed the Conservation Planning Committee. Having a diversity of members ensured that the input would be broad and inclusive. The Conservation Planning Committee members were: Will Werner (Tualatin Riverkeepers), Jennifer Thompson (US Fish & Wildlife), Heather Nelson Kent (Metro Parks & Greenspaces), Barbara Coles (environmental consultant), David Smith (biologist), Joseph Neary (TRLC Board member), Jason Minor (TRLC Board member and Oregon Trout), Stephanie Wagner (TRLC Board member and Friend of Tryon Creek State Park). Jayne Cronlund, Executive Director, and Virginia Bowers, Conservation Planner, staffed the committee.

PLANNING PROCESS

The Committee met seven times over the course of five months. The committee's task was to identify priority or "focus" areas within metropolitan Portland where there are *high value natural resources, AND threat of development, AND opportunity to protect these lands*. Examples of

threat include logging, conversion to development, pollution, and invasive species. Opportunities include funding available to help subsidize land acquisition costs, partnership groups present and supportive of protection, and property owners willing to sell or donate land interests.

The first step in the process was to survey various stakeholders for their opinions on what type of resources should be preserved and what areas have the highest need (See Appendix I for the complete survey). Stakeholders included environmental nonprofits, neighborhood associations, and government agencies from throughout metropolitan Portland (see Appendix IV for list of survey respondents). A summary of the survey responses is found in Appendix II. A list of all potential focus areas suggested in the survey is found in Appendix III.

The committee agreed to use the list of potential focus areas suggested in the survey as a starting point. In addition, the committee agreed that the top three resources respondents most wanted to see protected would also be the primary resources under consideration. They were stream and riparian areas, wildlife corridors, and upland wildlife habitat.

Next, the Conservation Planning Committee refined natural resource values. These secondary criteria provided guidance for the committee in selecting the Level 1 Focus Areas and eliminating others from contention. Staff listed an assortment of possible criteria, which included some scenic criteria. The committee voted by placing dots next to their top five criteria. The resulting top five criteria were:

- Good condition habitat (forested),
- Adjacent to other protected open space,
- Contributes to water quality,
- Provides connectivity for wildlife, and
- Contains unique natural features.

Before deciding geographic area priorities for the land trust, the committee needed additional information about each focus area's resources, threats and opportunities. Maps, acquired from Metro, showing areas of highest ecological value, were the foundation of the committee's research. The areas of highest ecological value were derived by Metro from a number of criteria, but primarily meant that the area had tree cover, and could also contain rare or endangered species. A Metro report describes their process in "Technical Review of the Model Used to Generate the Top Ecologically Significant Greenspaces Sites".

Staff scheduled Three Discussion Forums, one in each metro county, to gather more in-depth information. Invitations were sent to all stakeholders, plus additional contacts made through the survey. Each Forum started by introducing Three Rivers and the planning process, and then asked each participant for feedback on the survey results as well as specific questions on the resources, threats and opportunities within their area of knowledge.

Additional information was obtained through phone or personal interviews of stakeholders (See Appendix IV) and site visits to several of the potential focus areas. Staff and some of the committee members made site visits to Wilsonville, Damascus area (Rock and Richardson Creeks), City of Canby, Johnson Creek Watershed, Abernathy and Newell Creeks, Deep and

Tickle Creeks. Another source of information was through planning documents and watershed assessments (See Appendix V for a plans and assessments on file). Committee members brought their own knowledge to bear as well. No one person knew all the areas, but most were familiar with at least one or more of the subject watersheds/areas.

As it wasn't possible for the committee to visit all the listed sites, aerial photos were very helpful to understand the land use/land cover in the area. The resolution of the aerals was sufficient to show buildings, roads, trees and such. They were taken in either the year 1998 or 2000 and showed tax lots, streams and the UGB.

The committee agreed on a priority level system to filter all the potential focus areas. A three-level system provides the flexibility needed to be responsive to requests, but also provides guidance to staff. Level 1 areas are ones that meet primary criteria for resource, threat and opportunity. Level 2 areas are ones that meet resource and threat criteria, but the opportunity is not apparent. Level 3 areas are ones that only meet only one of the primary criteria of resource and threat or opportunity.

Level 1 areas also meet some underlying political needs and economic realities. It seemed important that focus areas be geographically diverse as well as have a diversity of natural resources. There is at least one focus area within each county within the Metropolitan region: Washington, Multnomah and Clackamas. Focus areas are also evenly distributed between each of the three major river basins: Tualatin, Clackamas and Willamette. There are focus areas both within and outside the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). This is relevant because properties within the UGB tend to be more expensive but offer higher tax benefits for the property owners. Properties outside of the UGB may be less expensive to purchase, but don't offer the same tax benefits for the property owners should they chose to donate the property or sell a conservation easement. To stay aligned with TRLC's tag line, "keeping natural areas close to home", all focus areas are within two to three miles of an urban residential area, regardless of whether the focus area is within or outside of the UGB.

Finally, these areas all speak to the livability of the Portland Metro region. These Focus Areas are:

- Places that neighbors, agencies, and other organizations are interested in protecting.
- Places that people know.
- Places, which if protected through a conservation easement or acquisition, will bring watershed health benefits and achieve TRLC's mission.

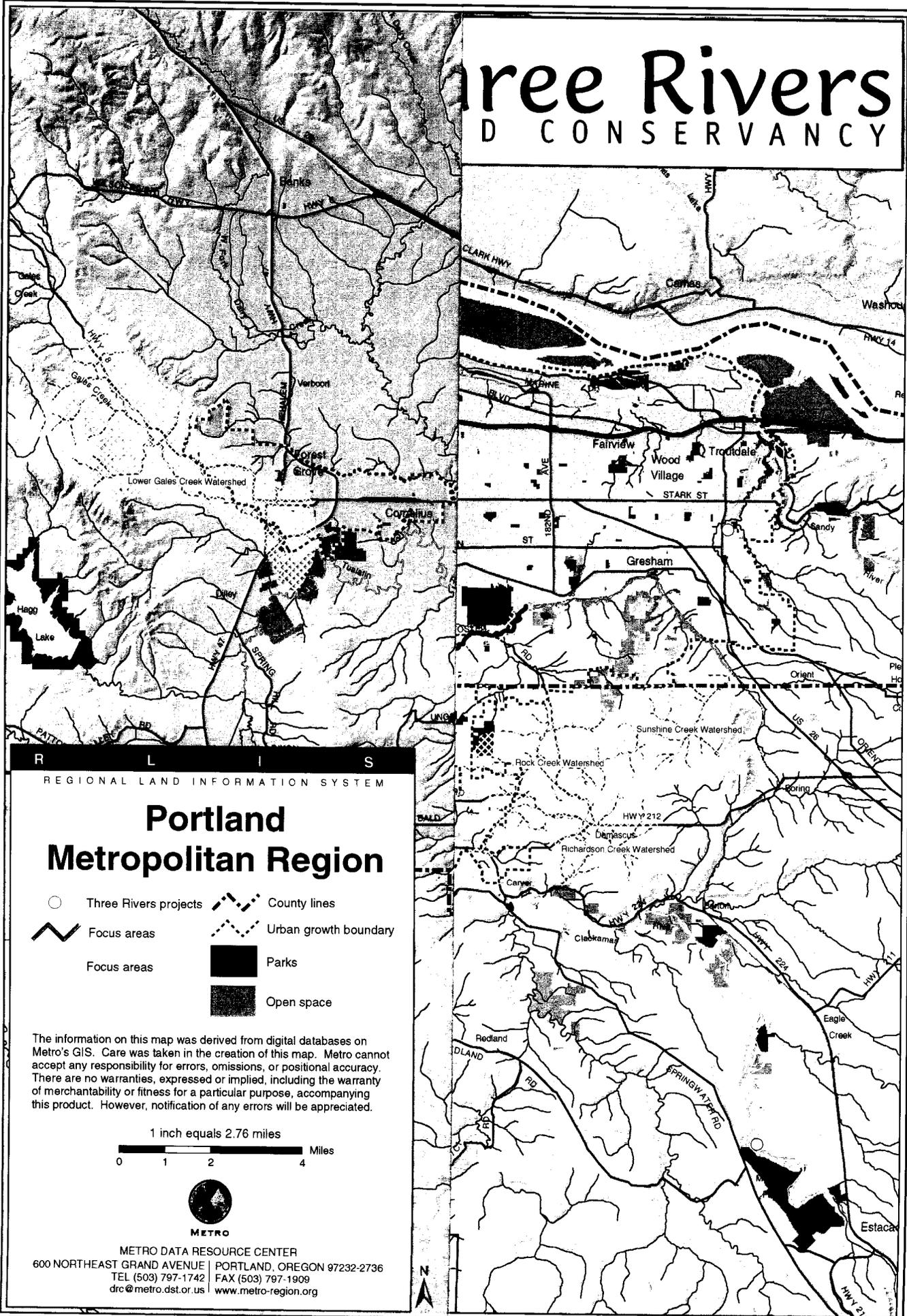
Each focus area is unique in its own way. Some have habitat worth preserving, others may be heavily impacted already. These impacted areas are worth restoring because of other values, such as being in a wildlife corridor or improving water quality of a stream. The written descriptions of Level 1 and 2 Focus Areas include their specific natural resources, threats and opportunities. Level 2 Focus Areas will have a limited description, as well as an explanation of why they did not make the Level 1 list. The committee anticipates that additional information or changes in situation may cause Level 2 areas to move up to Level 1 in the future. **The committee recommends that a three-level approach be used and that Level 1 focus areas become the priority targets for TRLC for the next year.**

Recommended Level 1 Focus Areas and how they meet the primary and secondary criteria are illustrated in Chart #1. Each focus area is arranged by major river basin. Although "Trail Proposed" and "Endangered Fish" are not secondary resource criterion as recommended by the committee, staff thought they are useful information. Map #1 shows the Level 1 Focus Areas spatially. This is followed by written descriptions for Level 1 and 2 Focus Areas and a list of Level 3 Focus Areas.

RECOMMENDED LEVEL 1 FOCUS AREAS

FOCUS AREAS	RESOURCE							THREAT						OPPORTUNITY		
	Forested	Adj. to Open Space	Water Quality	Wildlife Connect.	Unique Feature	Endangered Fish	Trail proposed	Outside UGB Dev	Agriculture	Logging	Mining	Dams	Inside UGB Dev.	Government	Private Org.	Potential Funding
<i>Willamette River Basin</i>																
Balch Creek Watershed*	X	X	X	X				X		X				X	X	X
Johnson Creek mainstem		X	X	X		X		X	X				X	X	X	X
Sunshine Creek Watershed (trib. of Johnson Creek)*	X		X			X		X	X				X+	X	X	X
Newell Creek Canyon	X	X				X		X					X	X	X	
Headwaters of Tryon Creek/Westside Willamette Wildlife Corridor	X	X	X	X		X	X						X	X	X	
<i>Tualatin River Basin</i>																
Stafford Basin*	X	X					X	X					X+	X	X	X
Headwaters Rock Creek	X		X			X		X	X	X				X	X	X
Beaverton/Lower Rock Creeks	X	X		X			X						X	X	X	
Gales Creek Watershed		X	X			X		X	X	X		X		X	X	X
Headwaters of Tualatin River Wildlife Refuge (Chicken, Cedar & Rock Creeks)/ Tonquin Geologic Area/ Sherwood to Wilsonville Trail:																
Chicken Creek Watershed	X		X			X		X	X	X			X+	X	X	X
Cedar Creek headwaters	X	X	X					X	X	X		X	X+	X	X	X
Rock Creek Watershed		X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Tonquin Geologic Area		X			X		X	X	X		X		X+	X	X	
<i>Clackamas River Basin</i>																
Rock & Richardson Creek Watersheds (Damascus Area)	X	X	X	X		X		X	X				X+	X	X	X

Three Rivers WATERSHED CONSERVANCY

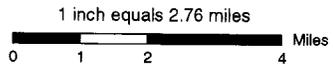


R L I S
REGIONAL LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM

Portland Metropolitan Region

- Three Rivers projects
- County lines
- Focus areas
- Urban growth boundary
- Parks
- Open space

The information on this map was derived from digital databases on Metro's GIS. Care was taken in the creation of this map. Metro cannot accept any responsibility for errors, omissions, or positional accuracy. There are no warranties, expressed or implied, including the warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, accompanying this product. However, notification of any errors will be appreciated.



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DESCRIPTION OF FOCUS AREAS

Level 1:

Willamette River Basin:

Balch Creek Watershed - is an established focus area on the southern end of Forest Park. The watershed has high quality riparian area and scenic qualities. Threats include urban sprawl and logging. Partnership already established with Friends of Forest Park. Metro Greenspaces Target Area.

Sunshine Creek Watershed- is an established focus area. A tributary of Johnson Creek, this creek flows from forested hills north of Damascus down to Sunshine Valley, where it becomes channelized as it flow through farm fields. At the lower end, the creek again meanders through several forested tracts, then through backyards of houses before joining Johnson Creek. Threats include agricultural run-off, and rural development. Clackamas County has provided funds to pursue conservation easement donations along this fish-bearing tributary.

Johnson Creek mainstem - runs primarily east/west from Boring to the Willamette River. The upper reaches run through rural farms and nurseries, while the lower reaches flow through high density urban areas. Endangered salmon have been found in this creek. Threats are severe in this watershed, including development, flooding, fish barriers, agricultural run-off. Opportunities also abound, with many potential partners including the Johnson Creek Watershed Council, City of Portland, City of Milwaukie, Clackamas and Multnomah Counties.

Newell Creek Canyon - was found to contain Coho, coastal cutthroat trout, steelhead, and rainbow trout. This tributary to Abernathy Creek is a steep canyon with some excellent habitat. Metro has purchased several properties already. Development threatens the creek, although steep terrain makes building difficult. Interested partners are Metro, Environmental Learning Center, Oregon City, Friends of Newell Creek. The Committee recommended focusing on education and CE's rather than full-fledge strategy. Metro Target Area.

Headwaters of Tryon Creek/Westside Willamette Wildlife Corridor -

Tryon Creek & Tributaries (Arnold, Park, and Nettle creeks): Maps show good forest cover. Studies indicate both anadromous fish and resident fish in creeks. Threats are ongoing development and high amounts of impervious surfaces. Portland's environmental zones may help protect riparian areas to some extent. Partners could include Friends of Tryon Creek State Park, Tryon Creek Watershed Council, Oregon State Parks, Friend of Arnold Creek, Portland BES, City of Lake Oswego. Metro Target Area.

Westside Willamette Wildlife and Trail Corridor - This corridor will be part of the Tryon Creek focus area, but will extend north of the tributaries to connect with Forest Park. The map shows that there are many tracts of land already protected, some of which have trails. The wildlife corridor concept will seek to connect these forested parcels. Additional partners include interested residents. See map for approximate location.

Tualatin River Basin:

Stafford Basin - is an established focus area south of Lake Oswego. The watershed consists mainly of the Wilson River, Pecan and Athey Creeks. The three main tributaries all indicate good quality habitat and water quality. All are tributaries of the Tualatin River. Three Rivers has helped acquire 5 parcels in this area by working with private landowners and the city of Lake Oswego to purchase and encourage land donations. Threat includes large-scale urban development as a proposed UGB expansion area.

Headwaters of Rock Creek Watershed - The headwaters of Rock Creek flow from the Skyline Ridge area through unincorporated Multnomah and Washington Counties. The creek contains fish and some intact riparian areas. This area is a mix of forest lands, small farms, and large lot homes. Threats include logging, rural residential development, and runoff from agricultural. Opportunities could include partnering with Clean Water Services Inc., Friends of Forest Park, Tualatin River Watershed Council, Tualatin Riverkeepers, and possibly Multnomah County. Metro Target Area.

Lower Rock Creek/Beaverton Creek - flows through the City of Beaverton's urban area, as well as through existing open space. A riparian buffer appears to separate the creek from most development. Threats include continued development and impervious surface runoff. Opportunities could include partnering with Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District, Clean Water Services, Tualatin River Watershed Council, Tualatin Riverkeepers, and City of Beaverton. Metro Target Area.

Gales Creek Watershed - a tributary to the Tualatin River, is a fish-bearing stream that begins in the foothills of the Coast Range. It has some of the highest fish counts of all the Tualatin tributaries. At its source, the land use is primarily timberland. The creek then flows through agricultural land before reaching Hillsboro. Riparian vegetation is lacking in some areas. Threats include logging in the headwaters, agricultural runoff in the lower reaches, as well as gravel mining. Partners could include Clean Water Services, Tualatin River Watershed Council, Tualatin Riverkeepers, Friends of Gales Creek and City of Forest Grove, which obtains water supply from Clear Creek. Metro Target Area.

Headwater of the Tualatin River Refuge (Chicken, Cedar, and Rock creeks) and Tonquin Scablands, Sherwood to Wilsonville Trail -

Chicken Creek Watershed is considered by ODFW to contain potentially important habitat for spawning and rearing of anadromous steelhead. Very little of the creek has been channelized although there are two active quarries on it. This creek is outside of the UGB but very close to Sherwood. Threats include logging, and agricultural run-off. Opportunities include partnering with Clean Water Services, Tualatin River Watershed Council, Tualatin Riverkeepers, and possibly the Refuge. Chicken Creek is in Metro's UGB Expansion Study Area.

Headwaters of Cedar Creek - This creek flows through the middle of Sherwood. Its headwaters are to the south of the city and outside of the UGB. There is a deficient culvert at Hwy 99 and another at Garibaldi Road. There are no known anadromous fish. The headwaters are forested. While the area within the city is actively being protected by the city of Sherwood, the area

outside of the UGB doesn't appear to enjoy the same protections. Partners could include City of Sherwood, Tualatin River Watershed Council, Wildlife Refuge, and Clean Water Services.

Rock Creek Watershed (South Washington County) - This watershed has been degraded by being channelized and actively quarried. There is little riparian vegetation remaining. However, this area is the obvious location for the trail between the Refuge and Wilsonville

Tonquin Scablands - is a unique geologic area between Tualatin, Sherwood and Wilsonville. Features include kolk ponds, knobs, shallow soils and rock outcroppings. Most of the scablands are outside of the UGB. Threats include rural residential development, mining, and agricultural runoff. Opportunities include partnering with the Cities of Tualatin and Wilsonville. Some lands are already been protected. Metro Target Area.

Sherwood to Wilsonville Trail - This trail has been proposed to connect the "Wilsonville Tract", recently purchased by Metro, to the Tualatin River Wildlife Refuge. The proposed location goes through the scablands and then along Rock Creek, which flows into the Refuge. Partners could include Metro, Cities of Wilsonville and Sherwood, and possibly the Friends of Goal 5. Metro Target Area.

Clackamas River Basin:

Rock & Richardson Creeks/Damascus (Clackamas County)

Rock Creek watershed flows from East Buttes through farmlands and house lots before diving into a forested canyon where a 20-foot waterfall lies 6/10 of a mile upstream from the mouth. Anadromous fish use the area below the falls for spawning and rearing and resident cutthroat trout can be found in upper reaches. The lava dome upland riparian zones are mostly forested, but also fragmented by fields and roads. The valley floor riparian areas are moderately forested, but agriculture, subdivisions, a golf course and roads have altered the riparian area or no riparian cover exists.

Richardson Creek Watershed is smaller than Rock Creek but is in better condition. It also flows through forested canyon in its lower reaches. Anadromous fish range from mouth of creek to close to 2 miles upstream. Existing problems include culverts, channelization, low summer flows, sediment loading, lack of in-stream habitat structure.

Threats from rural residential development are ongoing for both of these watersheds. However, the biggest threat will be is the likely expansion of the UGB into this area. There are many groups interested in this area, including Clackamas River Basin Council, Clackamas County, PGE possibly, 1000 Friends of Oregon, City of Happy Valley. East Buttes is a Metro Target Area.

Level 2:

Tualatin River Basin:

Bronson and Willow Creeks - flow into Rock and Beaverton Creeks. Both have similar situations as upper Rock Creek, but are smaller watersheds. Clean Water Services also has interests in these headwaters. Level 2 because these creeks contain very little "areas of highest ecological significance" and mostly in highly urbanized zone.

Dairy and McKay Creeks - flows to the west of Hillsboro and mostly outside of UGB. The habitat is mostly in poor condition, although there they have associated wetlands and contain anadromous and resident fish. Threats are primarily agricultural, some logging. Level 2 because these creeks are not on Clean Water Services preliminary list and habitat appears to be poor.

Fanno Creek and tributaries (Ash Creek etc) - are urbanized creeks with many areas protected, including an established trail. Tributaries need protecting, but most are in poor condition. There are already many partners and interested parties, including cities of Tigard and Beaverton, Metro, Fans of Fanno Creek, Crestwood Group, Bridlemile Neighborhood Association, Clean Water Services. Level 2 because it appears that there is not a role for TRLC. Metro Regional Trail and Target Area.

McFee Creek - flows from steep forested hills south of the Tualatin River. It is outside the UGB and at some distance from any urban area. BLM owns land in this watershed. Threats are logging and agriculture. Partners could include Tualatin River Watershed Council. Level 2 because it is not on Clean Water Services list, and there are no other apparent funding sources.

Clackamas River Basin:

Clackamas River main stem - Metro has targeted the Clackamas River Greenway for acquisition. Other partners could include PGE, City of Lake Oswego, and the Watershed Council. This is an important resource to the Federal government for its high value fisheries. Level 2 because of its large size and no immediate need. Metro Regional Trail.

Clear Creek Watershed - This is a high-quality, free-flowing, fish-bearing creek that flows northward to the main stem. Level 2 because there is little threat to natural resources. Metro has substantial holdings in the area. Metro Target Area.

Eagle Creek Watershed- Here the threat is primarily agricultural run-off and logging. It is far outside UGB expansion area. Level 2 because there are no obvious partners and low threat of development.

North Fork Deep Creek - This section of the watershed extends from Barton Park to Boring. The creek has good fish habitat. The steep wooded canyons prevent immediate development. The former railway line may be converted into an extension of the Springwater Corridor Trail. Level 2 because it doesn't appear that the proposed UGB expansion would affect this watershed. Upper North Fork of Deep Creek is in Metro's UGB Expansion Study Area.

Tickle Creek Watershed- This creek flows from the city of Sandy to Deep Creek. It contains fish. Threats include pollution and run-off from City of Sandy land uses, culverts, logging. Partners could include Friends of Tickle Creek, City of Sandy, Clackamas River Basin Council. Level 2 because threats are not as high as the Damascus area.

Willamette River Basin:

Kelley Creek Watershed- This tributary of Johnson Creek runs through Pleasant Valley Planning Area, which is within UGB. The watershed has a mix of habitat quality, and contains fish spawning habitat. Existing problems include private dams, road culverts and agricultural run-off. Potential partners include Portland, Gresham, Metro, Clackamas County, and Johnson Creek Watershed Council. Level 2 because many partners are currently involved and no request for TRLC involvement. Headwaters are a Metro Greenspaces Target Area.

Willamette Narrows/City of Canby - This area stretches from the confluence of Tualatin River south to the Canby Ferry crossing. Canby's park plan calls for open space protection along the Willamette River connecting open space with Mollala River State Park. The plan also calls for a ring of open space around the city with spokes of the wheel through the city called the emerald necklace. Canby specifically requested assistance with one particular parcel along the Willamette. Threats include rural residential development. Opportunities could include funding from Clackamas County, and partnering with City of Canby and other grass root organizations. Level 2 because of the current limited scope of conservation opportunities. Willamette Narrows is a Metro Target Area.

Abernathy Creek - flows through Oregon City into the Willamette River. This large watershed is mostly outside the UGB with little threat of development. The creek flows through steep forested canyons. Threats include logging and rural development. Lower Abernathy Creek may be in Metro's UGB Expansion Study Area. Level 2 because there are no obvious partners and relatively low threat.

Level 3

- Willamette River (floodplains)
- Tualatin River main stem/floodplains
- Kellogg and Mt. Scott Creeks
- Sauvie Island
- Columbia Slough
- Scappoose Bay
- Fairview Creek
- Canemah Bluffs
- Rocky Butte
- Hogan Butte
- Stevens Creek
- Urban forest in Beaverton
- Roaring Creek
- Miller Creek

IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIES

Developing specific strategies for each Level 1 Focus Area is of highest importance. The first step will be to do a feasibility study for each area by more carefully defining the resources in need of protection, finding willing partners, and determining funding needs and sources. There should be a wide spectrum of implementing strategies to choose from. Below are a few examples of possible strategies:

1. Education: This strategy aims to make property owners aware of Three Rivers Land Conservancy and provide a resource if they have questions or are interested in conservation easements. Efforts would be limited to mailing brochure to property owners with information and contact.
2. Complete: This strategy would be to approach all landowners in the focus area either through mail or telephone. There would be at least one meeting, likely at one of the resident's homes, where TRLC could answer questions, and property owners and the Conservancy could become acquainted. Strong partners would be needed to assist.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Adopt Level 1 Focus Areas and report as proposed.
2. Identify partners and strategies for Level 1 Focus Areas over next year. Seek grants from U.S. Fish and Wildlife and partners to achieve these objectives.
3. Review Levels annually. Opportunities may shift and the Conservancy shall be responsive to those changes.
4. Develop a demonstration project in focus areas.
5. Assign Board members a specific focus area to develop outreach.

NEXT STEPS

Below is a list of actions that TRLC could carry out to take advantage of the momentum created from this planning process. These ideas came from staff conversations and interviews with various parties during the planning process.

1. Interview Metro acquisition staff. They have extensive files on many of these areas and information about specific land owners.
2. Follow-up with contacts made. Many of the potential partners have asked how they can help. Partners can help TRLC make contacts with land owners, understand the watershed or areas better, combine forces in writing grant applications, distribute materials at meeting,

conferences etc. This group includes Clackamas River Basin Council, Johnson Creek Watershed Council, Tualatin River Watershed Council.

3. Immediate follow-up is needed with those partners who may have funds. They include Clean Water Services, City of Portland BES, PGE, Clackamas County.
4. Participate in on-going planning processes in the area. 1000 Friends and Clackamas County will be the center of discussions for the UGB expansion in the Damascus area. City of Portland and Metro both are in the process of Goal 5 planning. Getting involved early and staying involved may offer benefits in the long run.
5. Develop additional implementation strategies and educational materials for landowners.
6. Locate other funding sources.
7. Learn about and evaluate what other land trust groups are doing, so as not to duplicate services.
8. Enlist help of trail, equestrian, and walking clubs.
9. Ensure that TRLC's name and mission is included in natural resource planning efforts (i.e., Portland's Healthy Streams Plan and Metro's Goal 5).