



Fall 2017
NEWSLETTER OF THE

ILLINOIS VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Emergency Watershed Protection for Bridgeview Vineyard

Bridgeview Winery on Holland Loop Road lost 1.5 acres of land in production of Pinot Gris grapes due to erosion over the past 2 years. Without intervention, they stood to lose a lot more of the fertile and productive, yet highly erosive, agricultural soils to the voracious winter flows of Sucker Creek.

The Illinois Valley Conservation District volunteered to sponsor federal disaster relief dollars, which paid for 75 percent of the \$320,000 bank stabilization project. A presidential disaster declaration for the December 2016 storms and flooding triggered availability of relief money. Different than the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), this funding was acquired through the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program. Through EWP, we coordinated engineering, permitting, and construction of a bioengineered bank stabilization structure.

The eroding bank was armoured with large root wads; attached stems embedded and anchored in the bank. Additional logs and boulders roughen up the bank, slowing and deflecting water. The whole structure is interplanted with living willow stakes, the roots of which will lock the structure together for long-term stability of the bank. Additional shrubs and trees will be planted this winter, but in the meantime, grass seed was sowed across the disturbed area to prevent erosion of bare soils.

In addition to protecting the vineyard from future land losses, this project created habitat for threatened Coho Salmon and other aquatic species. Bridgeview Winery is a local producer dedicated to environmental stewardship. The Conservation District is pleased to have the opportunity to facilitate their conservation goals.



Above: Before bank stabilization at Bridgeview Vineyards. Below: After installation of woody structure, seeding and bank shaping.





A group of 30 volunteers lending a helping hand at the Waldo-Takilma Clean Up.

Keeping our Public Lands Clean

The IV Soil and Water Conservation District partnered with the Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center (KS Wild) to host two public lands clean up events this summer. Both events took place within BLM Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, designated as such because of their need for special management attention to protect important natural resources. The first of the two initiatives took place between Waldo and Takilma where rare plant species are threatened by illegal dumping. Approximately 30 community members volunteered their time cleaning up the public lands that mean so much to them.

The second clean up on BLM lands near Reeves Creek was also coordinated due to illegal dumping in rare species habitat. Some of the copious amounts of illegally dumped items included household trash, children's toys and clothing, furniture and other large items that should have been properly disposed of at a public dumping facility.

To avoid further environmental damage on public lands, the Conservation District has provided contact information and site locations for recycling and waste management facilities in the Illinois Valley below:

- **SOS Kerby Transfer Station** at 905 Kerby Mainline Rd. is open Mon through Sat from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **JP Auto & Metal Recycling** at 29910 Redwood Hwy. Call them at 541-592-3601.
- **Spiral Living Center** accepts used tools and books for their community library. Call 541-592-3641.

Organizations likely to accept donations of family items:

- IV Safe House Alliance, 541-592-2515
- The IV Boys and Girls Club, 541-244-8490



Conservation Tech Tracey Brandt, BLM and contract staff conducting fish salvage at Bridgeview.



Upcoming OSU Extension Service Events

Forest Health Day 2017

October 6 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
J Herbert Stone Nursery, Central Point
Free

Permaculture

October 19 | 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
OSU Extension Auditorium, Central Point
\$10/person, \$15/couple

Firewise Techniques

October 28 | 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
5405 Forest Creek Rd, Jacksonville
\$15/person, \$25/couple

What's Killing My Trees?

November 8 | 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Josephine County Ext. Auditorium, Grants Pass
\$10/person or household

Visit <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/sorec/forestry> or call 541-476-6613 for more information on or to register for any of these events.



From Powerball to Conservation: Your Lottery Dollars at Work



The Illinois Valley Soil and Water Conservation District supports two part-time employees, and provides free services to Valley land owners. We provide grant funding and technical assistance for resource improvement projects on private property throughout the Valley without receiving any tax dollars. In fact, the District is entirely grant funded.

In June, the State of Oregon 2015-2017 fiscal biennium came to a close and we at the District re-applied for capacity funding through the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), which we were awarded for the 2017-2019 biennium. This important source of 2-year grant funding is what pays the majority of our overhead and staff time, so we can continue to assist landowners with resource issues.

This year our capacity funding from ODA increased by 7.4 percent due to rises in lottery revenue, so don't feel guilty about buying those lottery tickets. With every purchase, you're supporting valuable conservation work throughout the state. Everyone at the District thanks you for playing!

The Oregon Constitution, Article XV, Section 4 states that state lottery proceeds shall be used for a) parks and recreation areas, and b) fish and wildlife, watershed and habitat restoration. The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) is tasked with distributing a portion of the lottery dollars designated in Section 4b. They pass some of those dollars down to ODA, who then fund to SWCDs across the state. OWEB also offers additional grants for on-the-ground restoration work in our Valley.

The lottery dollars we receive from ODA are specifically earmarked for implementing Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plans. SWCD's are named as the Local Management Agencies for implementation. The Illinois Valley is covered in the Inland Rogue Area Plan. You can access the plan online or pick one up from our office at 102 Redwood Hwy in Cave Junction.





Upcoming Board Meetings

October 26 | 6 p.m.
November 16 | 6 p.m.
December 21 | 6 p.m.

As of September 28th, all meetings take place at 102 S. Redwood Hwy Cave Junction, OR

Board of Directors

Bill Reid | *Chairman*
John Gardiner | *Vice Chair*
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Jan Walker | *Director*
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Daniel Dalegowski
Don Young
Gene Merrill

Staff

Tracey Brandt,
Conservation Technician
Samantha Watson,
Office Manager

Contact Us

Office: 541-592-3731
tracey@ivstreamteam.org

Financial Assistance for Ag Producers

The Natural Resources Conservation Service is accepting applications for their Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). This program offers financial and technical assistance for structural and management conservation practices on working agricultural lands. Two initiatives are currently available for eligible farmers:

- **Organic Initiative** - Available to farmers that are certified USDA organic or who plan to transition their land to organic to achieve a certification.
- **Seasonal High Tunnels** – Helps farmers install seasonal high tunnels (also known as hoop houses) to strengthen local and regional food markets and improve plant and soil quality, reduce nutrient and pesticide transport and reduce energy inputs.

Upcoming Events in the Community

KS Wild's Illinois Valley Salmon Hike

Sunday, October 29th

Meet at Forks State Park in Cave Junction at 1 p.m.

Join KS Wild for a hike in Forks State Park to view salmon along the East Fork and West Fork of the Illinois River. We'll learn about the salmon migration in the Rogue and Illinois Rivers. After we explore Forks State Park, we'll head over to the Little Falls trailhead along 8 Dollar Mountain Road and check out salmon jumping the falls.

Call 541-488-5789 for more information.

IV Garden Club Meetings

All meetings take place at the Immanuel Methodist Church with light lunch served at 12:30pm and speakers presenting from 1:15pm - 2:00pm with Q&A.

Oct 20: Gordon Lyford "Illinois Valley Water Resources by the Rights and by the Numbers"

Gordon has lived in the Illinois Valley for 25 years and is a Certified Water Right Examiner and Registered Agricultural Engineer in Oregon. Gordon will discuss the basic factors of water rights, water requirements, and water measurement, and learn why IV gardeners need to understand their water supply. Questions will be entertained during and after the talk.

Nov 17: Tracey Brandt and Samantha Watson, Illinois Valley Soil & Water Conservation District and IV Watershed Council.

"Your local resources to help you protect soil, water and salmon"

The Illinois Valley Conservation District is an equal opportunity employer.

