



Annual Work Plan 2024 – 2025

Goal One: The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District will assist landowners/manager in the wise use and protection of their natural resources.

- A. The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District will assist landowners/managers to improve and manage cropland, woodland, pastureland, urban, and wildlife land.
1. District will develop resource management plans for livestock operations, pastureland, forests, cropland, urban and wildlife lands.
 2. District will assist landowners/managers in application of conservation practices.
 3. District will monitor the effectiveness of applied practices.
 4. District will provide information and technical support for pasture, forest, cropland, and wildlife management.
 5. District will provide information and technical support for weed management in cooperation with appropriate agencies.
- B. The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District will implement programs that reduce point/non-point source pollution.
1. District will assist landowners/managers with water quality plans and to provide outreach and Technical Assistance through natural resource conservation programs.
 2. District, Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) will assist landowners/managers in solving identified pollution problems.
 3. District will assist landowners/managers in design and construction of controlled livestock access and crossings in streams, livestock exclusion fencing, off-stream watering, heavy use areas, etc.
- C. The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District will work to improve water quality, quantity, and use.
1. District will help landowners/managers improve irrigation water management.
 2. District will assist landowners/managers in the water rights application process.
 3. District with the assistance of agency engineers will design spring developments and watering systems for livestock and wildlife use.
 4. District will encourage and plan the proper use of riparian and upland areas.

Goal Two: The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District will continue its community outreach and educational programs.

- A. District will present a natural resource station at the Tsalila Education Days in Reedsport for Oregon schools.
- B. District will present information to public at local events such as Blooms & Butterflies Celebration, Earth Day, Umpqua Tree School, etc.
- C. District will write and produce newsletters.
- D. District will develop outreach materials and press releases to identify water quality concerns.
- E. District will develop brochures and fact sheets and update current brochures and fact sheets.
- F. District will maintain a website and/or other social media.
- G. District will work with School Districts regarding natural resources and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education programs.

Goal Three: The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District will identify areas within the District that would benefit from conservation projects.

- A. The District will prioritize areas of concern using data collected in the District's monitoring program in conjunction with input from the general public, from local representatives from Oregon Department of Agriculture, Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, the Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers, and Smith River and Elk Creek Watershed Councils, Port of Umpqua, City of Reedsport, City of Elkton, and others.
- B. District will coordinate prioritized areas of concern with the 303(d) listed stream segments and salmonid core areas within the District.
- C. District will continue to make noxious weed control and management a priority and explore all methods of control to ensure best management practices.
- D. District will identify, monitor, and inventory culverts and tidegates within the District looking for replacement/restoration options when needed/requested.

- E. District will assist with data collection processed by DEQ and ODFW to ensure accuracy and adequate attention to landowner/manager knowledge and experience of streams and watersheds within the District.

Goal Four: The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District will use all tools and methods available to increase the amount and quality of Coho and Chinook Salmon, Steelhead and Cutthroat Trout spawning and rearing areas in the waters of the District.

- A. District will work to develop effective relationships with agencies and organizations to ensure progress towards increasing the amount and quality of District fisheries.
- B. District will seek funding to increase and improve Salmonid habitat.
- C. District will identify, prioritize tide gates for improved fish passage, to increase habitat within stream and tidal channels, and work with landowners to increase awareness.
- D. The District will be the lead agency for the Umpqua Estuary Restoration Partnership which serves as an advisory group to the local conservation partners in the tide gate effort.
- E. Apply for restoration grants that improve habitat and water quality.

Goal Five: The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District will provide technical assistance using Coordinated Resource Management Planning with natural resource management agencies.

- A. District will provide natural resource management assistance to Douglas County and the State of Oregon.
 - 1. District will review and comment on subdivision permits applications.
 - 2. District will provide wetland and soils information to departments and landowners/managers as requested.
 - 3. District will review removal/fill and wetland mitigation permits.
- B. District will continue working on state and federal conservation programs.

Goal Six: The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District will monitor the effectiveness of conservation practices projects within the District.

- A. District will provide soil analysis to landowners/managers in the District.
- B. District will photo monitor conservation projects as per grant agreements.
- C. District will incorporate monitoring data from other agencies and organizations in annual monitoring reports.

Goal Seven: The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District will continue to work with other management agencies and continue to train employees in natural resource conservation.

- A. In an effort to network with the following Coordinated Resource Management Planning Organizations, District employees and/or Directors will attend as many meetings as schedules allow:
 - 1. Local Advisory Committee for the Umpqua Basin Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan
 - 2. Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District
 - 3. Southwest Oregon Basin Team
 - 4. Smith River Watershed Council
 - 5. Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers
 - 6. Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - 7. Oregon Association of Conservation Districts
 - 8. Oregon Department of Agriculture
 - 9. Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association
 - 10. State Tide Gate Partnership
 - 11. All other organizations pertaining to natural resource conservation.

- B. District employees and Directors will attend classes and workshops to increase knowledge on natural resource issues.
 - 1. At least one District employee will attend conservation planning course provided by NRCS.
 - 2. All full-time District employees will attend CONNECT or similar training.
 - 3. Other courses pertaining to natural resource conservation.

Goal Eight: The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District will act as the Oregon Department of Agriculture's Local Management Agency to implement the Umpqua Basin Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Rules.

- A. District will conduct a public information program for agricultural and rural land users to implement the area plan.
 - 1. Informational meetings.
 - 2. Speak at organized event.
 - 3. Develop workshops designed to focus on livestock health and maintenance in conjunction with water quality.

- B. District will be available for assistance to landowners that are determined by the Oregon Department of Agriculture to be out of compliance with the Umpqua Basin Water Quality Management Area Plan and Rules.

Goal Nine: The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District will continue to develop a long-range plan with the help of the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts.

- A. District will implement goals of long-range plan.
- B. District will develop long-range plan with the assistance of OACD.

Goal Ten: The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District will provide pasture and manure management information aimed at horse, cattle, sheep, goat, pig owners and managers.

- A. District will conduct pasture management workshops and manure management workshops.
- B. District will conduct a workshop designed to focus on riparian management to control erosion through the use of native plants.