December 1999
NORTH FORK JOHN DAY WATERSHED PROGRAM, FY 1998 HABITAT PROJECTS

Annual Report 1998

DOE/BP-11181-1
This report was funded by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), U.S. Department of Energy, as part of BPA's program to protect, mitigate, and enhance fish and wildlife affected by the development and operation of hydroelectric facilities on the Columbia River and its tributaries. The views of this report are the author's and do not necessarily represent the views of BPA.

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Bonneville Power Administration
Environment, Fish and Wildlife Division
P.O. Box 3621
905 N.E. 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97208-3621

Please include title, author, and DOE/BP number in the request.
North Fork John Day Watershed Program

FY 1998 Habitat Projects

Prepared by:
North Fork John Day Watershed Council Coordinator

Prepared for:
U.S. Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration
Environment, Fish and Wildlife Division

Project Number: 9801700
Contract Number: 98 BI 11181

December 1999
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Project#</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>98 BI 11181</td>
<td>9801700</td>
<td>Eliminate Gravel Push-Up Dams on Lower North Fork John Day</td>
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Introduction

The North Fork John Day Watershed Council was formed in September of 1995. The Council coordinates restoration efforts and facilitates cooperation between private landowners, state and federal agencies, and interest groups within the North and Middle Fork subbasins. The North Fork John Day Watershed Council coordinates educational, informational, and project activities over 2600 square miles. The council is comprised of individuals representing private landowner, tribal, agricultural, natural resource, environmental, industrial, educational, and municipal interests.

The North Fork is the most important subbasin in terms of water quality and flow to the John Day River. Sixty percent of the average annual discharge of the John Day Basin is provided by the North Fork (OWRD, 174). The North and Middle Forks combine to produce 82 percent of the spring chinook and 73 percent of the summer steelhead population for the John Day Basin. These are the largest spawning population of wild spring chinook and summer steelhead remaining in the Columbia River system.

The council hired a full-time coordinator in 1996 and began coordinating restoration projects in 1997. Restoration projects initiated and coordinated by the council include riparian fencing, push-up dam elimination, water quality monitoring, educational workshops, and riparian tree plantings. The North Fork John Day Watershed Council by-laws prioritize on-the-ground accomplishment and the collection and compilation of data upon which to base future implementation of actions affecting the watershed.

The North Fork John Day Watershed Council and Monument SWCD have outlined improving water quality in the North Fork John Day subbasin as their number one goal. Engineering and installation of effective alternatives to gravel push-up dams is specifically mentioned in the Monument SWCD annual work plan.

Riparian recovery is evident along the entire Monument to Kimberly reach of the North Fork. The majority of lands along the banks are hay fields, orchards, and recreational properties. Negative impacts caused by grazing have diminished in recent years. Construction and washout of gravel-push up dams is one of the main contributors to riparian degradation along this reach. Banks and beds are scoured for materials to construct the temporary dams. Designing and installing workable alternatives to these dams provides immediate and long term benefits to riparian areas, water quality, fisheries, and overall watershed health.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BPA Contract</th>
<th>BPA Project #</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
<th>BPA Funding</th>
<th>Cost Share</th>
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<tr>
<td>98 Bi 11181</td>
<td>9801700</td>
<td>Eliminate Gravel Push-up Dams in Lower North Fork John</td>
<td>$59775.66</td>
<td>$43695.66</td>
<td>$16080.00</td>
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1998 NORTH FORK JOHN DAY WATERSHED COUNCIL BPA PROJECTS
BPA BUDGET SUMMARY
Project # 9801700

Kimberly/Monument Reach--Lower North Fork John Day

River Meadows Push-up dam elimination project during construction
Project: Eliminate Gravel Push-up Dams in Lower North Fork John Day

Background: The River Meadows and Schultz sites are located upstream from Kimberly between river miles 4-5 of the North Fork John Day. During periods of low flow irrigators along this section of the North Fork are forced to construct gravel push-up dams in order to provide sufficient flow and storage for pumping. These gravel berms are impediments to both anadromous and resident fish. The instream modifications result in migration impediments, large pools of standing water, and increased sediment loads during construction and washout.

Objectives: The Lower North Fork John Day Push-up Dam Elimination Project is intended to enhance spring chinook salmon, summer steelhead, and resident habitat by meeting the objectives below:
   1. Reduce sediment loads and movement.
   2. Increase bank stability.
   4. Reestablish riparian vegetation in disturbed areas.

Project Description: This project will eliminate gravel push-up dams on the Monument-Kimberly reach of the lower North Fork John Day River by the following:
   1. Engineer, design, and install alternatives to temporary gravel push-up dams.
   2. Replant native grasses, shrubs, and trees to promote bank stability and stream shading.
   3. Construct riparian grazing exclosures (where applicable).
   4. Perform biannual maintenance checks in cooperation with landowner.

Project Monitoring: Monitoring plan includes:
   1. Establishment of permanent photo points.
   2. Monitoring of water quality throughout irrigation season. Parameters include, but are not limited to, temperature, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, and conductivity.
   3. Bi-annual stream profiling at each installation.
   4. Compute and analyze irrigation efficiency annually.

Start Date: July 1998
Completion Date: Project is active

Total Cost-to-Date: $59775.66
BPA Cost: $43695.66
Cost Share: $16080.00
Contacts: Robert Stubblefield
North Fork John Day Watershed Council
P.O. Box 95
Monument, OR 97864
(541) 934-2141

Collaborators: North Fork John Day Watershed Council
Bonneville Power Administration
Monument SWCD
Bureau of Land Management
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs
Monument High School
Columbia Power Co-op
Oregon Department of Water Resources
Monument SWCD Directors
Jack Cavender--Chairman
Joan Silver--Treasurer
Clyde Davidson--Director
Robert Cockrell--Director, Clerk
Jim Barker--Director
Betty Maynard--Associate Director
Leonard Paul Osburn--Associate Director

Monument SWCD Meetings
Monument SWCD Meetings are held in the Monument Senior Center the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. during daylight savings time and 6:30 p.m. the remainder of the year. The monthly meetings provide district residents an opportunity to be briefed on activities of the Monument SWCD as well as cooperating county, state, and federal agencies. A mailing list is maintained for meeting minutes and notices. Contact Monument SWCD if you are interested in receiving future mailings.

Monument SWCD Local Management Agency for Agricultural Water Quality Management Program

Under a Memorandum of Agreement with the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Monument SWCD is serving as the Local Management Agency for the Agricultural Water Quality Management Plan.

A Local Advisory Committee was formed in October of 1998 and has been meeting bimonthly since. Meetings alternate between the Monument Senior Center and Long Creek High School. The committee is currently working on revision of the draft Agricultural Water Quality Management Plan for the North/Middle Fork Subbasin.


For information regarding meeting time and place and/or informational brochures contact Local Management Agency representative Robert Stubblefield at Monument SWCD.

Monument SWCD
P.O. Box 95
Monument, OR 97864
(541) 934-2141

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SOLV/North Fork John Day Watershed Council Down by the Riverside Cleanup Day--May 1999
Introduction to Monument SWCD

Monument SWCD was one of the first districts established in Oregon. In 1937 the district was chartered with the following Board of Directors: Walt Foree, Zephyl Harrison, Fred Legler, Lynn Forest, and Fred Gasner. The district covered northern Grant County, including the Ritter area. Later, other areas of the county petitioned to establish a district that would take in the remainder of the county and the Ritter area was annexed into Grant SWCD. Monument directors voted to conform their boundary with that of Monument School District #8. Grant County is one of the few counties in Oregon with two active Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Monument SWCD has never requested a property tax base. Directors are elected by registered voters at a general election. Candidates must have agreed to serve and have submitted a petition within the time period established by law with the names of ten registered voters from the district who support the candidate. Associate Directors are appointed by the Board of Directors.

Monument SWCD Water Quality Monitoring Program

Water Quality Monitoring Coordinator Blaine Hoy has made significant progress with the program during the past year. He has developed a database of water temperature data including information from the United States Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Monument High School, as well as data gather by other SWCD’s and watershed councils within the John Day Basin. A database incorporating other water quality parameters such as dissolved oxygen, pH, conductivity, turbidity, and macroinvertebrates sampling is in the developmental stage. This data will be useful in evaluating the effectiveness of North Fork John Day Watershed Council and Monument SWCD restoration/enhancement projects.

Due to the success of several grant proposals, Monument SWCD was able to hire Sarah Mundy as a part-time monitoring assistant for the lower John Day Basin. Sarah’s duties include developing new monitoring sites, outreach to schools, gathering and organizing data, and developing files for each monitoring site.

The gathering and storage of credible water quality data remains a high priority for Monument SWCD. This commitment has been an important component in securing funding for staffing and

North Fork John Day Watershed Council

The North Fork John Day Watershed Council continued work on planning, restoration, enhancement, and educational activities within the North/Middle Fork subbasins. The watershed council holds monthly meetings alternating between Monument and Long Creek where interested parties are briefed on council, agency, and private landowner watershed work.

The North Fork John Day Watershed Council plans to begin the watershed assessment process within the next calendar year. A comprehensive watershed assessment is a key component to formulating an effective action plan and securing funding for future council activities and projects.

The watershed council coordinator position is funded by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. During the past year the North Fork John Day Watershed Council cooperated on projects with Bureau of Land Management, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, Bonneville Power Administration, Natural Resources Conservation Service, US Forest Service, Ukiah, Long Creek, and Monument Schools, Oregon Department of Transportation, and SOLV (Stop Litter & Vandalism).

North Fork John Day Watershed Council

Continued on page 3
meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month alternating locations between Monument Senior Center and Long Creek High School. Please call Robert Stubblefield, Coordinator at the Monument SWCD office if you wish to be placed on the NFJDWC mailing list.

**North Fork John Day Watershed Council**
Jack Cavender--Chairman
Clint Barber
Jim Cannon
Ron Gaither
Shaun Robertson
Kone Hancock
LaVelle Holmes
Clayton Livingston
Rick Henslee
Ron Burnette
Mark Reitman
Bill Dixon

**Monument SWCD Native Plant Nursery**

Monument Soil and Water Conservation District continued to operate and expand the native plant nursery. The nursery has been in operation for eight years and is able to provide over 30 varieties of riparian and farmstead species. All trees available are adapted to John Day Basin conditions and are field-raised. Bare root plants are available in season and some trees and shrubs are available in containers throughout the spring.

Monument SWCD provides plantings for all District and Watershed Council riparian projects. Chairman Jack Cavender puts in many hours at the nursery and greenhouse working to maintain and improve the nursery.

Please call 541-934-2141 for a list of available species or for more information.

Projects. Funding agencies recognize the importance of obtaining credible data, and this should enable Monument SWCD to continue improving and expanding the monitoring program annually.

The water quality monitoring program is a cooperative effort with area schools, agencies, and landowners. The Monument High School Student Watershed Enhancement Team (SWET) assists with the gathering, analyzing, and storage of water quality data. Monument High School Teacher Ron Gaither began his monitoring program in 1988, and Monument SWCD appreciates the efforts of Ron and his students in initiating and expanding the program. Ron, Lorraine Thomas, Debra Hunt, and Melanie Hunt gave a well-received audio/visual presentation at the Fall 1998 Governor’s Watershed Enhancement Board Conference in Ontario. The SWET program has received statewide recognition.

Monument SWCD looks forward to continuing and expanding our cooperative water quality monitoring efforts with John Day Basin Schools.
Monument SWCD
Oregon Youth Conservation Corps Marks Tenth Anniversary

This past season was the tenth year that Monument SWCD has sponsored an Oregon Youth Conservation Corps crew. The OYCC program has been a highly successful program for both the District and the Monument community. Over fifty youths have been employed under the program.

Crew leader Steve Lockhart did an excellent job building on the success of past projects as well as initiating new activities. The crew performed trail maintenance and cleanup at Cavender Conservation Pond, installed a memorial marker and repaired fence at the LeRoy Quail Refuge, prepared planting bundles for Oregon Department of Transportation, planted riparian areas along the North Fork John Day, as well as maintaining the Monument SWCD Native Plant Nursery and working on numerous other community and conservation projects.

Past members of the Monument SWCD crew have gone on to major in natural resource related fields of study and to employment with companies and agencies specializing in management of natural resources.

The OYCC program has managed to diversify funding sources over the past two years. Generous financial and in-kind support has been provided by the Oregon Parks Foundation, the Ralph Smith Foundation, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, Grant County, Oregon Department of Forestry, City of Monument, Training and Employment Consortium, and Bureau of Land Management.

Monument SWCD looks forward to continuing sponsorship of an OYCC crew and providing educational and employment opportunities to the youth of our community.

Watershed Council Day at the Legislature


Senator Ted Ferrioli and Representative Lynn Lundquist both took time out of their busy schedules to meet with our delegation and listen to our concerns. They shared their ideas as to the role of watershed councils and emphasized their commitment to supporting the work being performed by local, grass-roots organizations such as the watershed council.

North Fork John Day Watershed Council push-up dam elimination project
Monument & Kimberly Effort
MAKE

The District MAKE Committee is a standing committee chaired by Director Joan Silver. It is an important component of the Monument SWCD. MAKE is involved in development of long range economic plans for the community, with a goal to provide modest population growth and improve the quality of life in our community.

During the past years members of MAKE have been involved in securing funding and beginning construction of the Monument sewer and wastewater treatment facility. MAKE continues to work cooperatively with the City of Monument and a variety of state and federal agencies throughout the funding, permitting, and implementation of community projects.

The MAKE committee compiled and published a cookbook of recipes from the Monument community. The cookbook has been a successful project and copies remain available. The cookbooks make excellent gifts. Contact the Monument SWCD office or Joan Silver if you would like a copy.

MAKE committee goals for the coming year include continuing work on the Monument sewer project and working toward refining and implementing the long-range plan.

MAKE committee members meet monthly and welcome visitors and suggestions for improving the economic and social structure of our community.

Monument SWCD and North Fork John Day Watershed Council Staff
Robert Stubblefield--Watershed Council Coordinator
Blaine Hoy--Water Quality Monitoring Coordinator
Sarah Mundy--Water Quality Monitoring Technician

Educational Activity Cooperators
North Fork John Day Watershed Council
Monument SWCD
Department of Environmental Quality
Monument Schools
Long Creek Schools
Wheeler County Schools
Bureau of Land Management
Ukiah Schools
Wheeler SWCD
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Oregon Department of Agriculture
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Monument SWCD/ North Fork John Day Watershed Council Monitoring Workshop--March 1999

North Fork John Day Watershed Council and BLM Bridge Creek Tour--June 1999
### Monument Soil and Water Conservation District

Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance

**All Governmental Fund Types**

For the Year Ended June 30, 1999

<table>
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<th></th>
<th>General</th>
<th>Special Revenue</th>
<th>Totals (Memorandum Only)</th>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>1998</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Revenues</strong></td>
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<td>Intergovernmental grants</td>
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<td>Grants, other</td>
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<td>Interest</td>
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<td>988</td>
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<td><strong>Total revenues</strong></td>
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<td>45,823</td>
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<td><strong>Expenditures</strong></td>
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<td>Materials and supplies</td>
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<td>Capital outlay</td>
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<td>Fund balance at end of year</td>
<td>$35,916</td>
<td>$(11,633)</td>
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Monument SWCD
P.O. Box 95
Monument, OR 97864