



Oregon Conservation Education & Assistance Network

Summer 2022 Newsletter

New OCEAN Board Member & Contractors

Hello Conservation Colleagues!

On June 16th, the Oregon Conservation Education & Assistance Network held its Annual Meeting and elections of area representatives. The following Area



Photo Credit: Eastern Oregon River Outfitters.

Representative Positions were up for election & we re-elected: Columbia Plateau Representative represented by Herb Winters (Gillam County SWCD), Portland/Salem Metro represented by Jeremy Baker (East Multnomah SWCD), Western At-Large Representative represented by Cathy McQueeney (Clackamas SWCD), and Western At-Large Representative C represented by Kelly Daves (Tualatin SWCD). Victoria Fischella (Upper Willamette SWCD) was nominated and elected last year to be our Northwest Oregon Representative and we are excited to have her on the board serving again this year. Deric Carson (Union SWCD) was nominated and elected

to be the new Eastern At-Large Rep. A on the OCEAN board which we are very excited about!

Karelia Ver Eecke and Rikki Heath presented the strengths of the Southern Oregon Regional Envirothon, Oregon Envirothon, and the importance of building greater support from and within Oregon's Conservation Districts. The pdf version of the presentation can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

OCEAN also has two contractors on board, Jason Faucera with Clackamas SCWD and Alexandria Scott who will be reaching out to Districts about different informational matters on behalf of OCEAN in the coming months.

Alexandria can be reached via email at support@oceanconnect.org and Jason can be reached via email at programs@oceanconnect.org.

Launch of New OCEAN Website

Oregon Conservation Education & Assistance Network

ABOUT ▾ EVENTS CONNECT CONFERENCE TRAINING & CERTIFICATION ▾ DISTRICT DIRECTORY 🔍

LOGIN OR REGISTER DONATE

Employee training for stronger conservation districts

Serving conservation district employees across Oregon with technical training, professional development, education, assistance, and networking opportunities.

ABOUT OCEAN

Training and Certification opportunities to keep you on the cutting edge of conservation:

We are excited to announce the launch of our new website! We have added some additional resources to this new site that we hope you will check out! These new resources include an [Events page](#), an [SWCD Training and Certification](#) page and an [NRCS Training and Certification](#) page. The District Directory has been transitioned to our new site and we will be continuing to update district information as it is submitted to Jason Faucera (Clackamas SWCD & OCEAN Contractor). One thing Districts can be doing to assist us in these efforts is to thoroughly read and send all of the information that is being asked for in this new Directory update to minimize additional communications and get us up to date faster on our beautiful new site!

CONNECT+ Conference 2022 Registration Now Open



CONNECT+

SEASIDE CONVENTION CENTER

SEPTEMBER 6-8, 2022

A HYBRID CONFERENCE

Held in the spring since 2009, and administered by OCEAN since 2012, **CONNECT** provides training focused on both the technical and administrative aspects of conservation implementation. Classes are developed for rural and urban conservation implementation, managerial and administrative function, policy, and for education and outreach activities, delivering content that is specific and relevant to current conservation issues. This year's event will be hybrid and held September 6th - 8th at the Seaside Convention Center. Virtual and in-person registration is now open at <https://www.connectoregon.net/register>! If you are interested in being a sponsor or exhibitor, [contact us](#).

NRCS Partner Success Stories

Through an NRCS cooperative agreement OCEAN and the Natural Resources Conservation Service have partnered together to share success stories about Oregon farmers and ranchers who are embracing voluntary conservation to protect the natural resources on their



Photo Credit: Central Oregon Veteran's Ranch

land. The first success story we partnered up with NRCS was about the [Central Oregon Veterans Ranch](#) (COVR) and the amazing work they are doing with our veterans in Central Oregon. To read the full NRCS success story about this working ranch that restores a sense of purpose to veterans of all ages [click here](#). This is the first of many success stories we will be working to tell with NRCS.

Staff Changes

The following employees have been hired in the last year, for future newsletters we will keep this section updated using the District Directory on our website. If your District has staff changes, please let us know so we have the most up to date information for your District.

Employee	Position	District/Organization
Stutzman, Karin	Soil Water Conservation Program Lead	Oregon Department of Agriculture
Sanchez, Brenda	District Manager	Marion SWCD
Mancillas, Tiffany	Urban Lands Education & Outreach Coordinator	East Multnomah SWCD
Boyt, Nayt	Outreach and Media Specialist	Upper Willamette SWCD
Garthwaite, Katie	Watershed Coordinator	Gilliam County SWCD
Francis, Whitney	Administrative Assistant	Polk SWCD
Fernandez, Asianna	Executive Assistant	East Multnomah SWCD
Keirstead, Heath	Communications & Education Specialist	Marion SWCD

Herb, Delani	Natural Areas Conservation Planner	Marion SWCD
Nelson, Heather	Grants Program Manager	East Multnomah SWCD
Schwenk, Sasha	Operations Admin	East Multnomah SWCD
Beebe, Anna	Conservation Specialist	Clackamas SWCD
Pineda, Becky	Water Quality Conservation Planner	Marion SWCD
Neil, Morgan	Outreach Coordinator	Polk SWCD
Dietz, Daniel	Conservation Technician	Upper Willamette SWCD
Peterson, Kristina	Education & Outreach Specialist	Tualatin SWCD
Lovell, Adriana	Education & Outreach Specialist	Tualatin SWCD
Zuber, Emma	Field/Office Assistant	Deschutes SWCD
Owens, Leslie	Administrative Assistant	Upper Willamette SWCD
Filbin, Samantha	NRCS Liaison/Office Assistant	Wasco County SWCD
Goodell, Daniel	Conservation Technician I	Wheeler SWCD
White, Sasha	Restoration Specialist	Upper Willamette SWCD
Shih, Jennifer	Grants & Enrollment Specialist	Tualatin SWCD

Fischella, Victoria	Conservation Technician	Upper Willamette SWCD
Cloutier, Suzi	Conservation Specialist	Clackamas SWCD