



Spring 2016

Healthy Land
Clean Water
For Life

"My Sediments"

Oregon Chapter Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 1

Hello OSWCS Membership,

2016 is flying by. It seems that just a couple of months ago we held the 2015 Oregon Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society annual meeting on October 30, 2015. The usual suspects attended with a live meeting at the NRCS-USDA Plant Material Center in Corvallis, OR while others joined via telephone. In total, your four Board members attended the brief meeting. We originally planned a robust meeting but, with no RSVPs outside of the Board, we kept it low key and saved our resources for another time. It was disappointing to know we were unable to engage the OSWCS membership the way we would have liked. Currently, the active portion of our OSWCS is held together by a few highly dedicated individuals.

As we all wish for the Chapter to thrive, there is a pitfall to overcome to keep the OSWCS Board active and invigorated, as well as recruiting new members. As the current president of the OSWCS, I find it my responsibility to inform the membership that **our Chapter is vulnerable and needs your support.** It is imperative that we engage more individuals from our membership.

Societies as a whole, including our Chapter, are undergoing a generational transition. OSWCS, once a prosperous society of mostly NRCS professionals, has opened up to conservation professionals from all walks of natural resource management.

The Survival Strategy

To recruit young blood we offer to sponsor

new student members by covering their first enrollment membership cost.

We accept and encourage participation in any OSWCS event, by anyone, even if they do not belong to the national membership.

We need to have your special insight and wisdom to put together a Society that can thrive and remain relevant and prominent in our professional world.

We seek involvement from the membership to keep our Board fresh and cohesive.

We need voices, member representatives, out in the field spreading the SWCS membership opportunity to students and conservation professionals throughout the state.

The amazing thing about this Chapter is we can mold it and craft it to whatever we want it to be. We can use the Chapter as a vehicle to fill in gaps in our professional development. We can use the Chapter to build partnerships and make new friends with a common interest. We can use the Chapter to mentor young professionals who are starting out in this complex and exciting field of conservation.

At the annual meeting we discussed the upcoming year and drafted a list of events: all mentioned in this issue of the My Sediments. We were unable to fill the vacant Board seats: Vice President, President Elect, Secretary, Membership Coordinator. The dedicated board members agreed to serve another term as appointed Officers.



Oregon Chapter President, Brenda Sanchez, digs life along Mill Creek in Salem.

*Society - from the Latin word **societas**, derived from the noun **socius** meaning comrade, friend, and ally.*

Societies are characterized by patterns of relationships between individuals who share a distinctive culture and institutions; a given society may be described as the sum total of such relationships among its constituent members.

Connect with us!



Facebook



oregonswcs.org



Healthy Land
Clean Water
For Life

"My Sediments"

Oregon Chapter Newsletter

Spring 2016 - page 2

Volume 4, issue 1

We discussed merging with two Washington and possibly Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Society Chapters.

Send Us a Signal

As we move forward on combining chapters, we ask, even if it's only once or twice a year, for members to please call into a Chapter meeting and say hello. If you haven't paid attention to the Chapter in a while, it is time to step back in and see where we are. You may want to help facilitate the next workshop. You may have an idea for an activity that is daunting as an individual, but as a group we can bring it to life. Let us know if you are receiving emails and notifications about the Chapter. These small interactions and participation can be enough to move the Chapter forward and inspire the dedicated volunteers to keep the Chapter alive. Alive, because they know their efforts make a difference. Watch your email for Chapter meeting dates. We meet via teleconference. No travel required.

Social Media

We continue to embrace current methods of social media. We now have a OSWCS email account: soilpedon@gmail.com.

We started a **Facebook** page to share current events, meeting times, Chapter news, and share the conservation buzz of our partners. We now have 70 likes!!!

We have updated our Chapter website, oregonswcs.org, and have added links to other resources.

We continue to learn how to use the social media resources more effectively. Please check in once in a while to our events page to see what new things are happening.

Brenda Sanchez, President



WE, US, our SOCIETY

The Oregon SWCS Chapter is highlighted in the March 2016 Conservogram

http://www.swcs.org/documents/filelibrary/pdfs/conservogram/2016/March_2016_E543B28FD1CC3.pdf

Read. Be proud. Get involved!

Up-coming Events

April 18 - 9 AM to Noon
Spring Cover Crop Field Day
Corvallis Plant Materials Center
RSVP

71st International Annual Conference
Managing Great River Landscapes
July 24-27, 2016
Louisville, Kentucky
Join the Board and apply for financial support to attend!



Coming SUMMER or FALL 2016
Integrated Biological
Pest Management Workshop
Stay tuned!!

News Release

NRCS Releases Native Seed Manual for Pacific Northwest Species

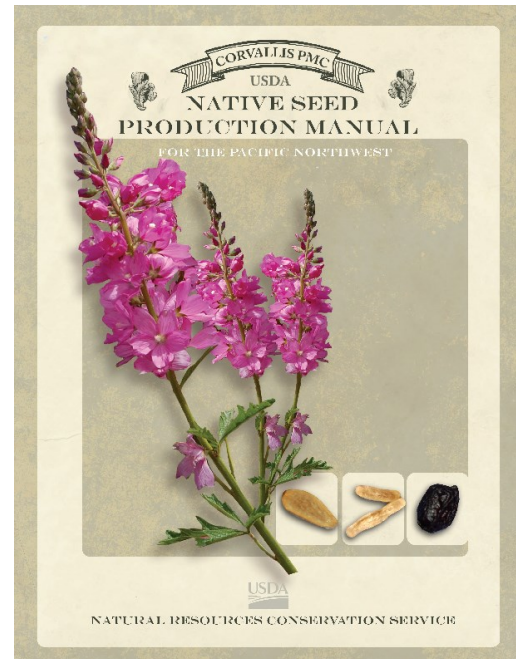
CORVALLIS, Ore. – [January 27, 2016] – USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announces a new, comprehensive manual now available to seed producers (and seed enthusiasts) about native plant species in the Pacific Northwest.

The publication, called the Native Seed Production Manual for the Pacific Northwest, was produced by the NRCS Plant Materials Center in Corvallis, Oregon.

"This 192-page manual is a compilation of knowledge gained by Plant Materials Center staff who have worked intimately with native plant species for more than two decades, since the early 1990's," said Amy Bartow, one of the manual's primary authors who works at the Corvallis center.

The Native Seed Production Manual for the Pacific Northwest contains detailed, species-specific information for 17 grasses, 60 forbs, and 7 sedges and rushes found throughout the Western regions of Oregon and Washington. It also contains information on all aspects of seed production, from establishment and weed control to harvesting and seed processing. The back section features an equipment overview, which explains the various types of equipment used at the PMC.

The manual, along with many other plant-related publications, is available on the Corvallis PMC



publications webpage at: <http://bit.ly/PMCPubs>
(Look under the "Major Publications" category on the list of publication types)

Printed copies are available on request by emailing Amy Bartow amy.bartow@or.usda.gov.

The Corvallis Plant Materials Center's primary mission is to develop new technology in plant propagation and establishment, seed production, revegetation, restoration and erosion control, and to develop new plant sources for use in riparian areas, wetlands, and uplands. The Corvallis center provides plant solutions for northwestern California, western Oregon, and western Washington. The service area includes the northern Pacific Coast Range, Willamette Valley and Puget Sound, as well as Olympic, Cascade, and Siskiyou Mountains of western Washington and Oregon.



Healthy Land
Clean Water
For Life

Get Involved

Oregon SWCS



**2015 Streambank
Restoration Workshop**

Member-based Society

Started prior to 1966 the Oregon Chapter is a local branch of the national member-based society formed to support professional development and foster camaraderie.

Your help is needed to sustain OSWCS!



Chapter Admin

Board members
Review and update bylaws
Annual Plan of Work/Annual Budget
Promote legislative issues



Professional Development

Workshops Conferences Tours
Community Service



Member Services

Social Media
Management
Scholarships
Student Chapters
Awards

SWCS Professional Development Hx



Soil

2007 Soil Quality
2012 Soil Quality Network I
2013 Soil Quality Network II



Water

2011 Protecting with Buffers
2015 Streambank Restoration



Conservation

2010 Three Studies in Nutrient Trading
2014 Agroforestry

powered by





Healthy Land
Clean Water
For Life

"My Sediments"

Oregon Chapter Newsletter

Spring 2016 - page 5

Volume 4, Issue 1

Submit Your Story to My Sediments The Oregon Chapter News

Help tell Oregon's conservation story by submitting an article to *My Sediments* about a newsworthy project, work-in-progress, upcoming event, or recognize a valued cohort.

Formula for an easy article: Write 75 to 200 words and include a graphic to add visual interest to your story.

Please include the following components:

- Title
- Author
- Contact for more information
- Indicate if article includes time sensitive material and the deadline date.
- Graphics - for each article include at least one and up to three graphics.
 - Photos: include caption (important!) and photographer name and year.
 - Graph/Chart: brief data description and legible units.

Submission Schedule

Submit articles, questions or comments to:

Teresa Matteson, Tmatt0@rtdata.com

541-840-3616.

Deadline for articles	Distribution date
February 15	March 1
May 15	June 1
August 15	September 1
November 15	December 1



Board Vacancies!

We are recruiting three Board members. Members serve 3-year terms. Ideally, board members represent the following areas:

Zone 1	Central OR	1 member
Zone 2	Eastern OR	1 member
Zone 3	SW OR	1 member
Zone 4	NW OR	2 members
At-Large		2 members

Board Member Activities

- Board members attend SWCS Board meetings in person or via teleconference.
- Board members serve as officers.
- Board members are eligible for financial support to attend the 71st International Annual Conference: Managing Great River Landscapes - July 24-27, 2016 in Louisville, Kentucky!

Join the Board and apply for financial support to attend!

We are accepting nominations for these positions:

- President Elect
- Secretary
- Membership Coordinator

If you have questions or comments, contact us.

SWCS Oregon Chapter Board Members

Brenda Sanchez, President

soilpedon@gmail.com

Teresa Matteson, Secretary/Treasurer

tmatt0@rtdata.com

Russ Hatz, Past President

russ.hatz@frontier.com

Annie Young-Mathews—Zone 4

anna.young-mathews@or.usda.gov