



Tom Spine

Clackanomah Oak Habitat Conservation Implementation Strategy

April 10, 2018

Nicole Ahr, Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District

Jenne Reische, Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District

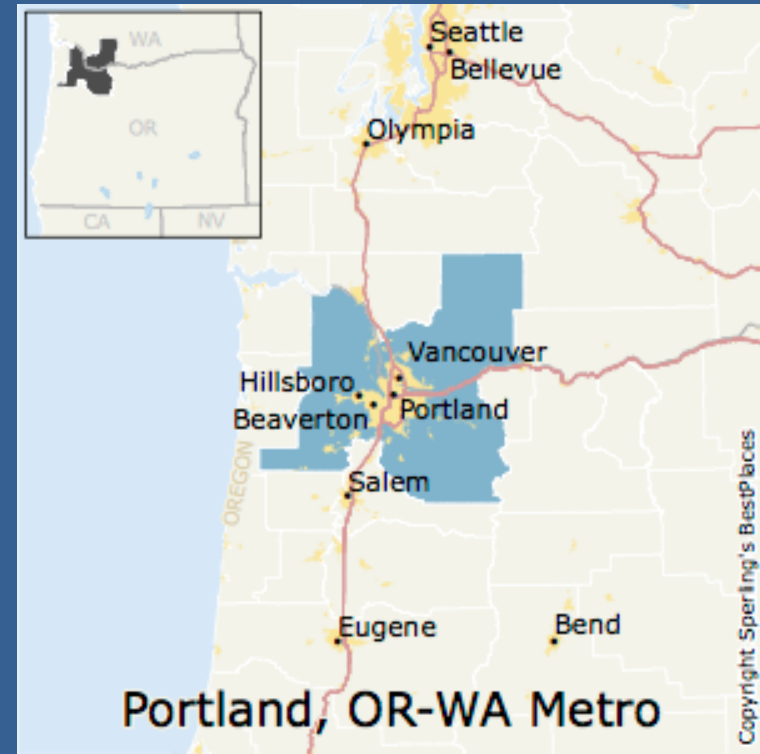
Kammy Kern-Korot, West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District

Cascadia Prairie Oak Partnership Meeting

Eugene, Oregon

Who we are

- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
 - Greater Portland-Metro area
- Technical assistance to private landowners
- Voluntary conservation practices
- Property tax base funding



Reason to apply for funds

- Oak habitat is primarily on private lands
- Oak threats are high in our area

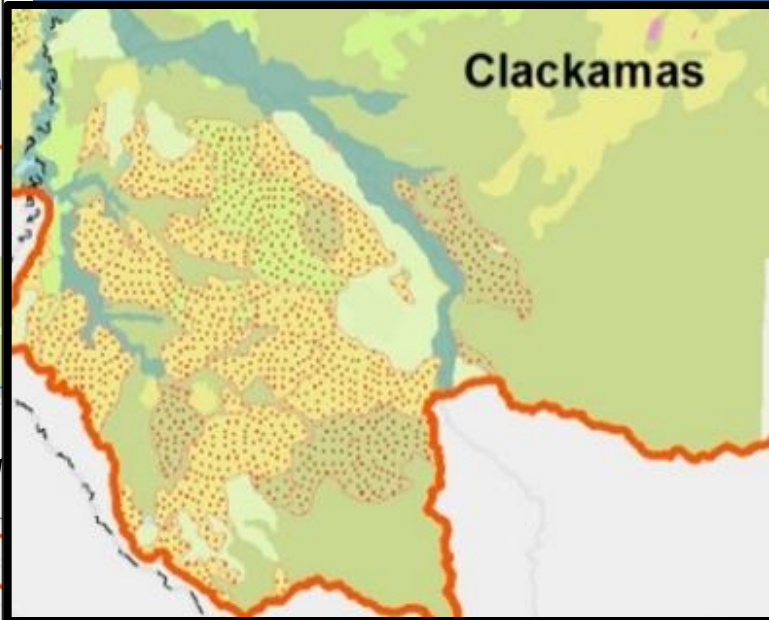
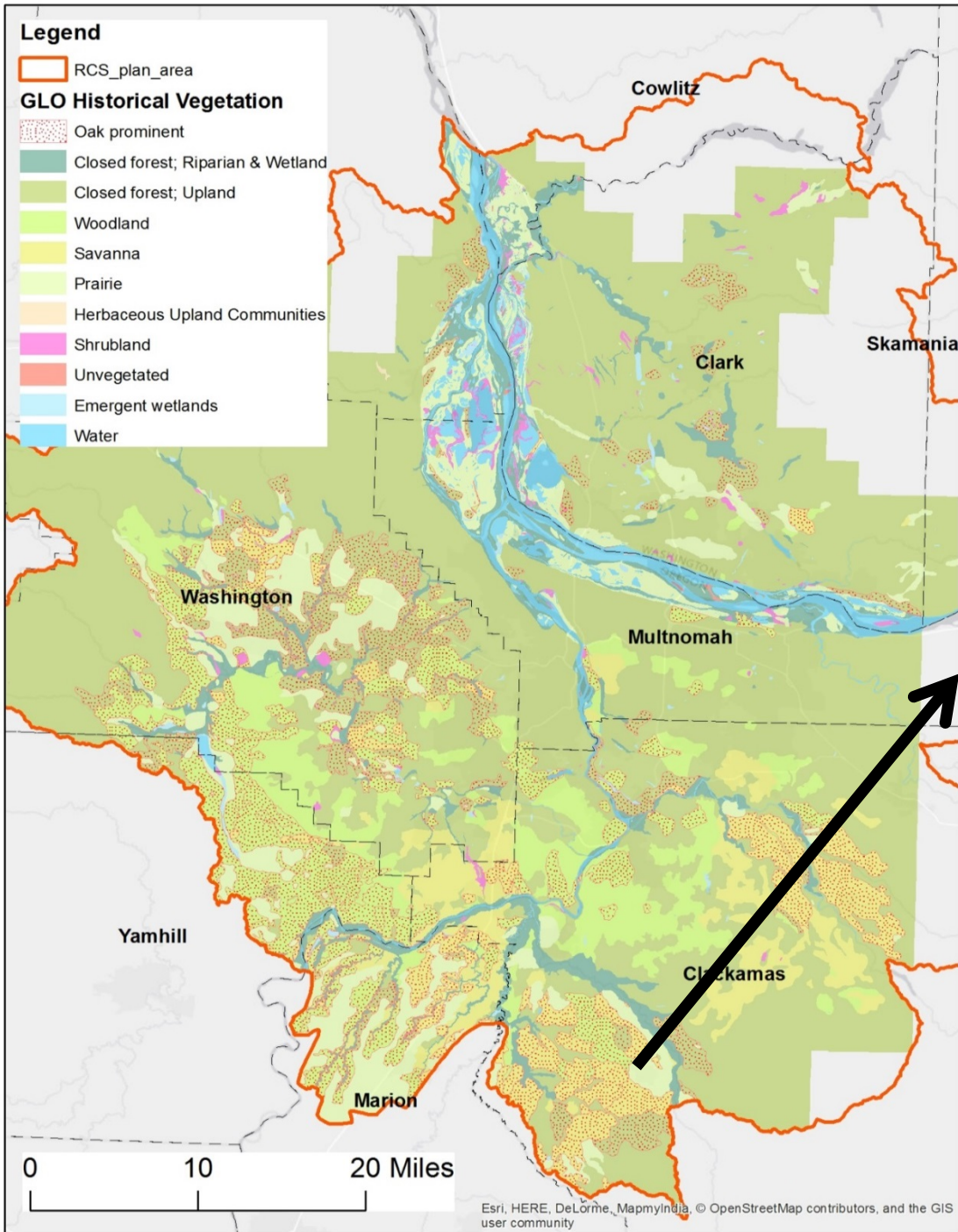
- Conserving oak habitat on working lands
- Supplement funds for existing oak projects
- Generate interest in oak habitat conservation

Legend

RCS_plan_area

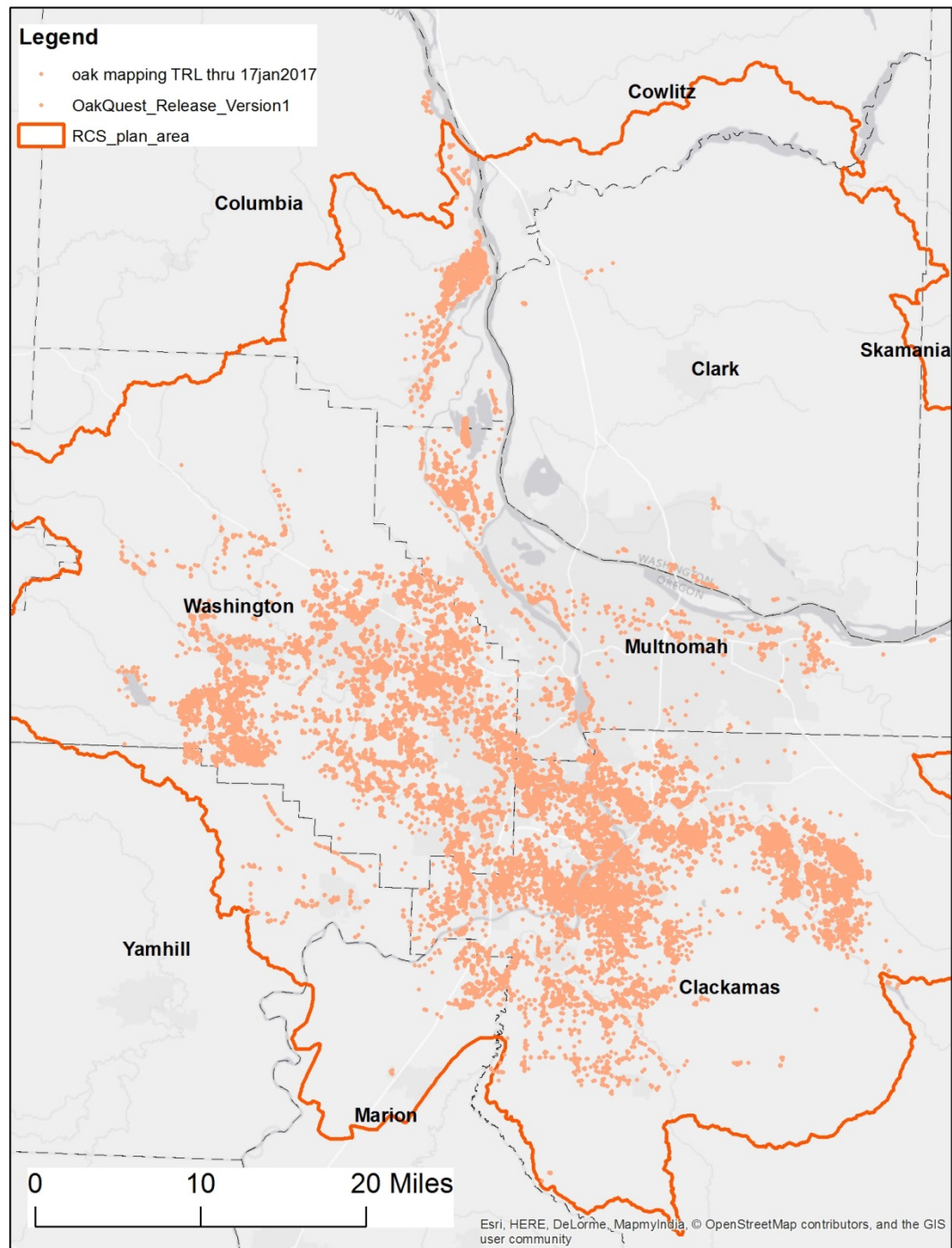
GLO Historical Vegetation

- Oak prominent
- Closed forest; Riparian & Wetland
- Closed forest; Upland
- Woodland
- Savanna
- Prairie
- Herbaceous Upland Communities
- Shrubland
- Unvegetated
- Emergent wetlands
- Water



Legend

- oak mapping TRL thru 17jan2017
- OakQuest_Release_Version1
- RCS_plan_area



Esri, HERE, DeLorme, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

Oak Habitat Funding Proposal

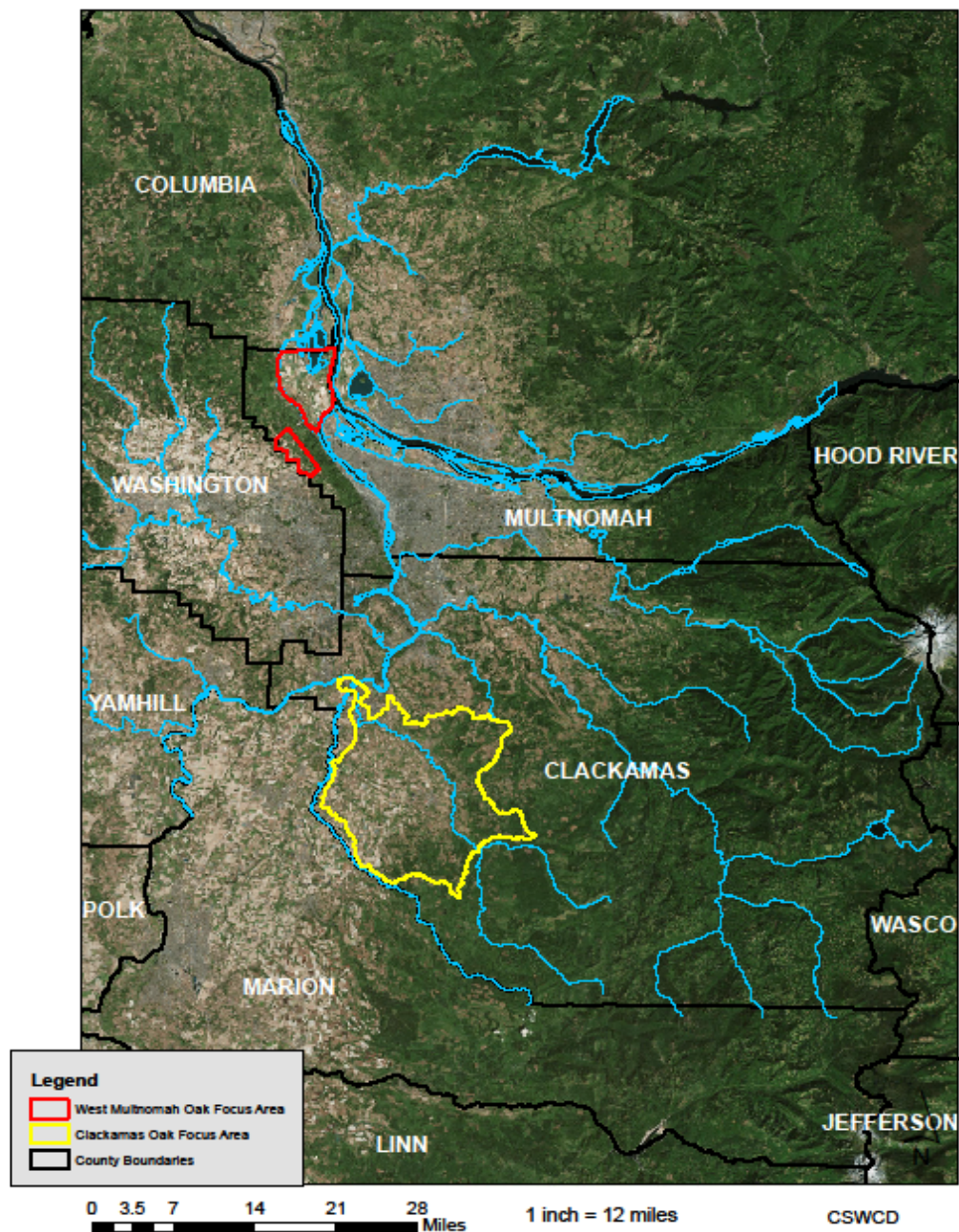
Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) funding

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) funds
- Oregon using CIS model

Partners

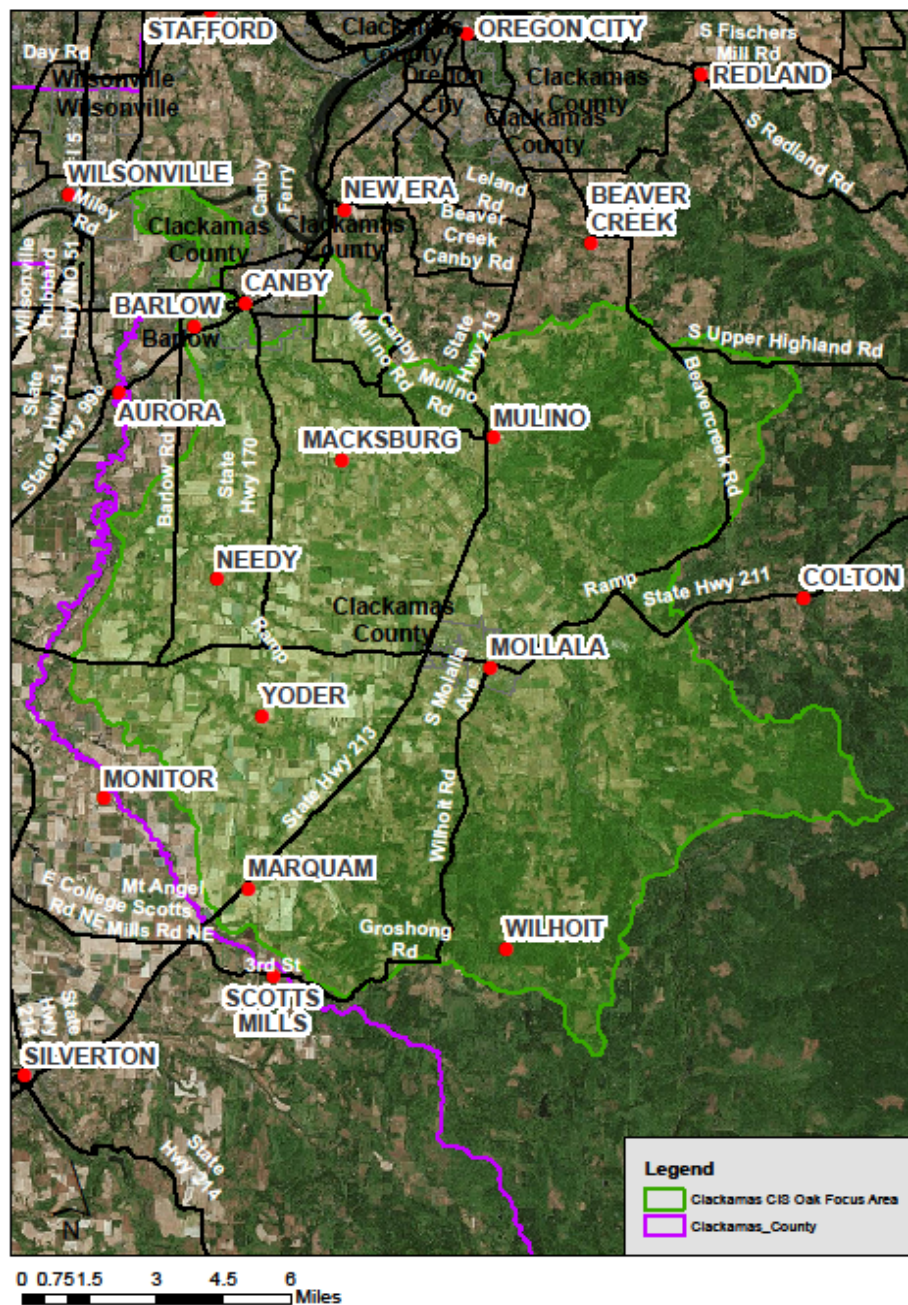
- Clackamas SWCD
- West Multnomah SWCD
- NRCS
- Metro
- Watershed Councils
- USFWS Partners Program
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Clackanomah Oak Habitat CIS



This map is intended for planning purposes, to show planned actions and provide a reference to given objects on a property. Scale is provided for approximation.

Clackamas County Oak Funding Area
Molalla River, Rock, Garret, Bear, Milk, Cedar and Woodcock Creek Subwatersheds



West Multnomah Oregon White Oak Concentration

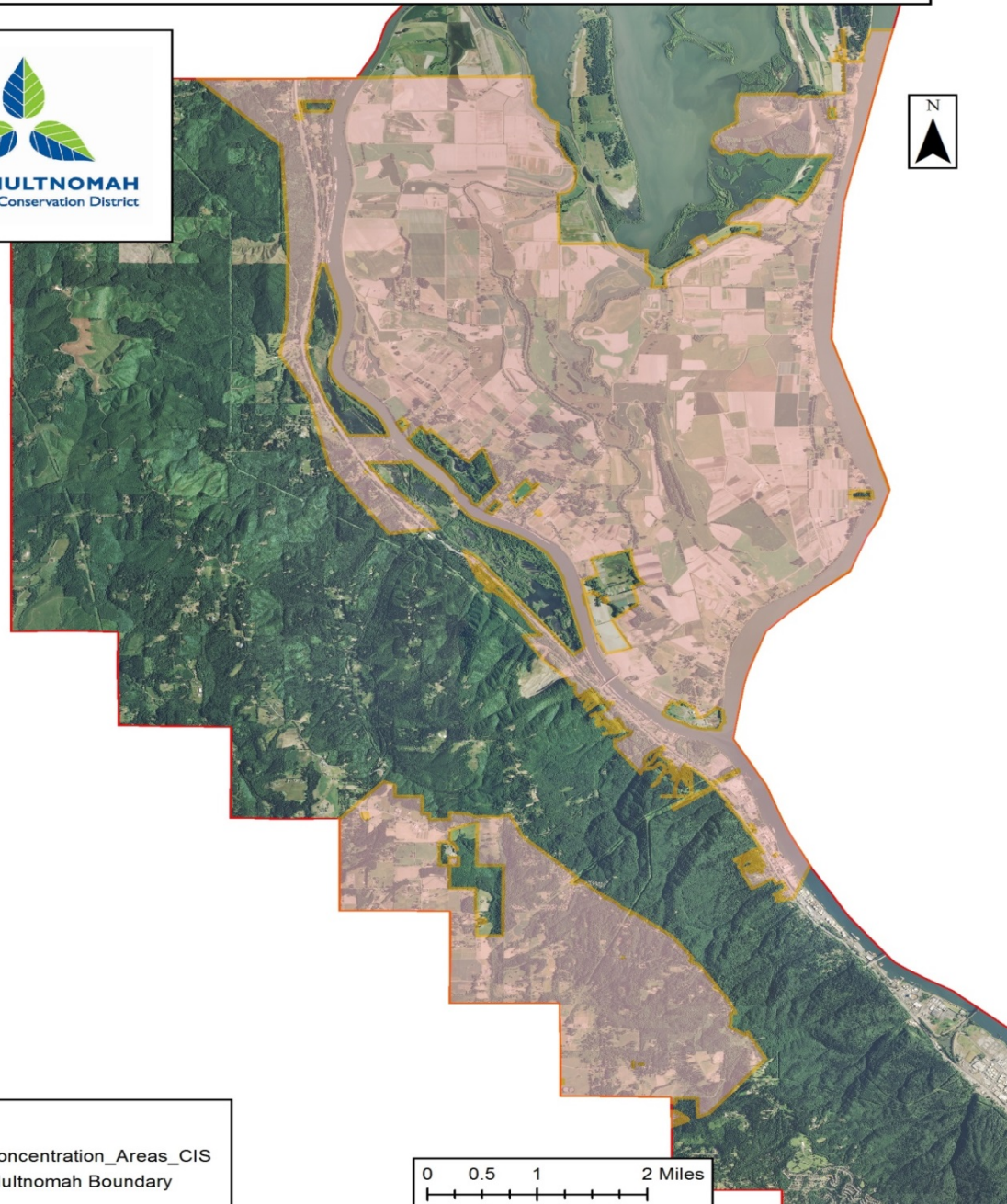
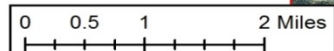


WEST MULTNOMAH
Soil & Water Conservation District



Legend

-  Oak_Concentration_Areas_CIS
-  West Multnomah Boundary



Conservation Practices in CIS

Practice Code	Practice Name	Use in oak projects
314	Brush Management	Control of woody weed species in understory
315	Herbaceous Weed Control	Control of invasive grasses and forbs in understory
327	Conservation Cover	Establishment of native grasses and forbs in understory
382	Fence	Manage livestock in restoration areas. This practice will not be used extensively but is needed for cross-fences to manage livestock on a limited number of operations.
384	Woody Residue Treatment	Removal of undesired residue after treatment
484	Mulching	Moisture conservation around planted seedlings. This practice will not be used extensively but is needed for weed control on organic farms where herbicides cannot be used.
490	Tree/Shrub Site Prep	Clearing and/or control of unwanted vegetation from each site prior to planting. This will provide planting space and reduce competition. Site preparation will be completed through a combination of mechanical and chemical methods.
528	Prescribed Grazing	Controlled grazing within oak habitats. We anticipate a small group of clients using grazing as part of the CIS, but the acres will be limited and only a small amount of funding will be needed.
612	Tree/Shrub Establishment	Planting of oaks and other desired woody vegetation
643	Restoration/Management of Rare and Declining Habitats	Habitat monitoring and management. This practice will be used on selected projects to collect data to evaluate effects of practices that could lead to adaptive management adjustments in project implementation.
649	Structures for Wildlife	Structures will be provided where applicable to provide cover for wildlife species: nesting boxes, snag creation, raptor perches
666	Forest Stand Improvement	In some cases, there will be some existing forest vegetation that is desirable. This practice will be used to remove the unwanted vegetation surrounding desirable vegetation, such as removal of trees that actively compete with existing oak trees.

Funding Sources

- NRCS CIS funding (EQIP dollars)
 - Awarded in 2017
 - Funding for fiscal years: 2018, 2019, 2020
 - Total funding: \$227,500
 - Annual funds: \$75,800
 - Includes funds for both Counties
- Conservation District funding
 - Third year of site prep
 - Cover crop/seeding
 - Maintenance



Outreach and Site Selection

- Existing project sites and interest
- Newsletters
- Fair Booth
- Website and Facebook announcements
- Mailings (Fall 2016, 2017 – Clackamas County)
- Tree School Presentation (Spring 2018)



Outreach Efforts 2017 - Mailing

- Oak Mapping Data

Intertwine Oak Prairie Work Group

Portland-Metro Regional Conservation Strategy Area

- Identified taxlots (one oak and >10 acres)

- Mailer – list of 252 landowners

Effort required by respondents – no postage included

Responses

Yes – 22 responses

No – 0 responses

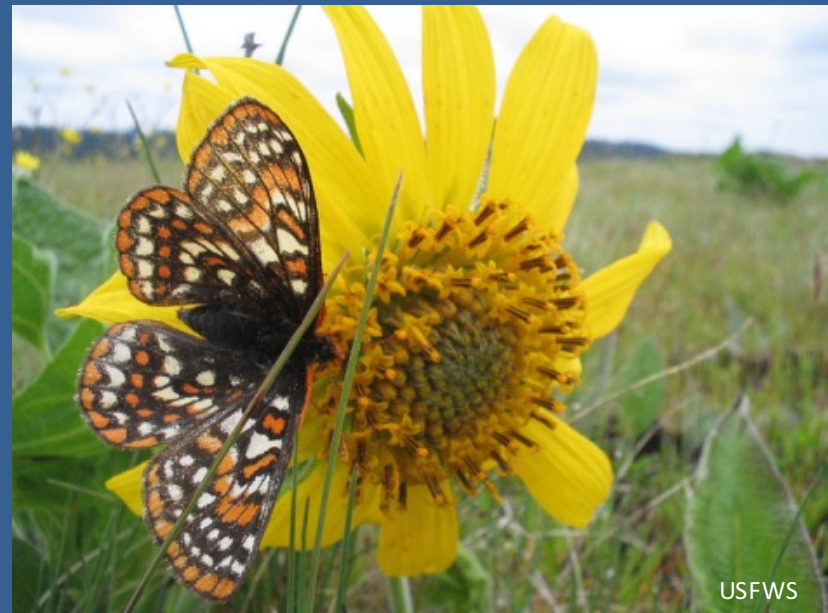
8.7% response rate

Follow-up Activities

- 36 follow-up phone calls & emails
- 25 site visits
- Many tree health concerns
- Other resource concerns on properties:
Livestock, water quality, weed control



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USFWS

Oak Habitat Project Interest

11 landowners

- **Reasons for Interest**

Wildlife habitat, weed control, property appeal/value

- **Property Size**

14 to 86 acres (avg = 35.2 acres)

- **Oak Project Area**

5 to 23 acres (avg = 10.8 acres)

- **Oak habitat types**

Oak woodland – 2 sites

Oak savanna – 4 sites

Both – 5 sites



Oak Habitat Project Interest (cont'd)

11 landowners

- **Soils (18 soil types)**

Diverse soils: hydric, stony, erosive and prime farmland

- **Riparian Features**

10 of 11 sites with a creek, river or wetland

- **Crops**

Pasture, hay, grass seed, Christmas trees

- **Livestock**

7 of 11 sites with livestock: cattle and horses

Oak CIS Contracts (2017-2018)

- Projects ranked
- 5 landowners pre-approved for funding
- Working on project details and contracts
- Projects start in the summer or fall of this year



Lessons Learned (1st year)

- Landowners excited about oak!
- Fine-tune outreach
- Timing of NRCS processes vs. restoration needs
- Practice scenarios could be updated for oak work
 - Site prep, planting oak, maintenance
- Some practice funding not aligned with costs
- Difficult to budget (landowner vs. contractor)
- Sites unique, efficiency difficult
- Long-term maintenance



A landscape photograph of a green field with trees and mountains under a sunset sky with a full moon.

Thank you!

**Next week at CONNECT!
Oak Habitat Session
Seaside Convention Center
Wednesday, April 18th
8:30 am to noon**