

## Comments, Questions, Concerns from Residents Kick-Off Community Meetings

- **Philomath:** 7 to 8:30 pm on Nov. 10 at the Benton County Historical Museum upstairs
- **Lewisburg:** 7 to 8:30 pm on Nov. 12 at the Mountain View School library
- **Alsea:** 7 to 8:30 pm on Nov. 16 at the Community Center library meeting room
- **Monroe:** 7 to 8:30 pm on Nov. 17 at the Monroe High School library
- **Wren:** 7 to 8:30 pm on Nov. 18 at the Wren Community Center.
- **Adair Village:** 7 to 8:30 pm on Nov. 19 at Adair Village City Hall

## Comments

- ◆ Concern about how riparian areas, wetlands, and technical terms be defined
- ◆ Make clear the existing State and Federal Rules for streams and wetlands
- ◆ Emphasize the Common Ground: preserving resources and promoting property values—be careful to not trigger private property concerns
- ◆ Consider adopting Statewide Planning Goal 5 Safe Harbor inventory and program, since it is most widely used to protect riparian areas and associated wetlands.
- ◆ Be sure to have follow-up meeting and continued outreach to present progress and gain input throughout the project period
- ◆ Approach farmers and forest zone landowners to actively participate (e.g. Advisory Group input)
- ◆ Promote incentives over regulation
- ◆ Determine inventory of ephemeral and perennial streams
- ◆ Determine focus areas—if water quality is a focus, the inventorying and protection of ephemeral streams is important
- ◆ Develop a flow chart (road map) that allows interested landowners to better understand and maneuver funding opportunities, tax benefits, etc.—this should result in an easy to follow, booklet of options for riparian and wetland areas
- ◆ Document areas where wetlands have been lost—use to inform future restoration
- ◆ Determine extent and quality right now—begin development of a local ranking system
- ◆ Gather local knowledge
- ◆ Actively work with interested landowners in inventoried areas and as interaction with the public occurs, to determine best options for restoration, protection, etc.
- ◆ Identify degraded areas—prioritize for future work
- ◆ Determine specific stream units
- ◆ Determine issues with existing property easements and right of ways
- ◆ Provide on-site and in-office consultation support—match existing support of local organizations engaged in work
- ◆ Utilize a watershed inventory/assessment area for priorities for inventory
- ◆ Determine distance of adjacent land uses that affect riparian and wetland quality
- ◆ Determine impacts from upstream and downstream impacts

**TURN OVER**

Benton County Riparian and Wetlands Project: [www.co.benton.or.us/cd/riparian](http://www.co.benton.or.us/cd/riparian)

- ◆ Don't allow direct spraying into riparian corridors, open water, or wetlands
- ◆ Be thoughtful of recreational access

### **Questions**

- ◆ What is a stream?
- ◆ How can future phases work to obtain more funds to help property owners directly on restoration/conservation of inventoried areas?

### **Concerns**

- ◆ 'Urban vs. Rural' conflict over what is valued as part of the inventory, requirements.
- ◆ Creeping loss of wetlands needs to be stopped—especially for high-functioning, high value naturally occurring wetlands