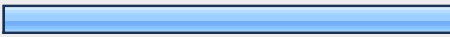

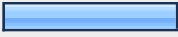

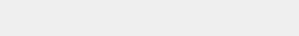


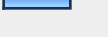
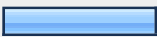
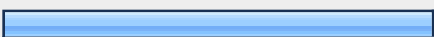



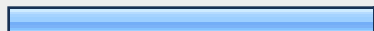






HCP Prairie Conservation Strategy Survey

1. Please indicate all that apply to you:			
		Response Percent	Response Count
I am a resident of Benton County		69.7%	92
I own land in rural Benton County		38.6%	51
I own land within city limits in Benton County		26.5%	35
I am not a resident of Benton County		22.7%	30
I do not own land in rural Benton County		43.9%	58
I am interested in habitat conservation on my property		50.0%	66
I am not interested in habitat conservation on my property		9.8%	13
I am a public/NGO land manager		15.9%	21
		answered question	132
		skipped question	0

2. Do you own land in the Fender's blue butterfly habitat zone? [You can cut and paste this link into your internet browser for an interactive map of the butterfly zone: gis.co.benton.or.us/HCPMap/index.htm]			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		23.1%	30
No		66.2%	86
I don't know		10.8%	14
		answered question	130
		skipped question	2







3. Which type of land ownership should be emphasized for habitat conservation in Benton County?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Public land		7.1%	9
Private land		0.0%	0
Both, with emphasis on public land		31.0%	39
Both, with emphasis on private land		5.6%	7
Whichever mix meets habitat conservation needs best		56.3%	71
No opinion		0.0%	0
		<i>answered question</i>	126
		<i>skipped question</i>	6

4. Would you be interested in creating or enhancing habitat for species that are not listed as endangered but have conservation value on your private property (example: prairies for western meadowlark)?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		64.6%	82
Maybe		15.0%	19
No		9.4%	12
No opinion		11.0%	14
		<i>answered question</i>	127
		<i>skipped question</i>	5

5. Are you willing to provide habitat for endangered species on your property, and does your willingness depend on how regulations are applied?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, regardless of regulations		16.0%	20
Yes, provided regulators are flexible and work collaboratively with me on how I manage my land		47.2%	59
Yes, if their presence does not affect how I can manage my land (I don't want to work with regulators).		15.2%	19
Maybe (I need more information, I'm unsure, etc.)		6.4%	8
No, not under any circumstances		5.6%	7
No opinion		9.6%	12
answered question			125
skipped question			7

6. Did you know that under federal and state law, threatened and endangered animals are protected on private lands but plants usually are not? [Some exceptions include when plants provide habitat for endangered animals at the site, if a wetland fill permit is requested, or if federal funding is involved in a project on private land.]			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		66.9%	83
No		33.1%	41
answered question			124
skipped question			8

7. If seeds of rare or endangered plants were available to you, along with instructions on how to grow them, would you be interested in planting them on your property?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, regardless of regulations		31.1%	38
Yes, provided regulators are flexible and work collaboratively with me on how I manage my land		36.9%	45
Yes, if their presence does not affect how I can manage my land		15.6%	19
Maybe (I need more information, I'm unsure, etc.)		7.4%	9
No, not under any circumstances		5.7%	7
No opinion		3.3%	4
		<i>answered question</i>	122
		<i>skipped question</i>	10

8. The Benton County Prairie Conservation Strategy has several goals. Please rank these goals in order of importance to you. (only one answer per column)					
	1 (most important)	2	3 (least important)	Rating Average	Response Count
Identify prairie habitats and habitat attributes important to Benton County's rare prairie species in order to achieve viable populations of prairie dependent species	54.5% (61)	28.6% (32)	17.0% (19)	1.63	112
Encourage voluntary cooperative partnerships among public and private landowners and the general community to enhance conservation	40.0% (46)	42.6% (49)	17.4% (20)	1.77	115
Facilitate access to diverse sources of funding to maximize likelihood of stable support	6.1% (7)	27.8% (32)	66.1% (76)	2.60	115
Please help us identify other goals or strategies:					24
<i>answered question</i>					118
<i>skipped question</i>					14

8. Please help us identify other goals or strategies:

Build community support through creative variety of regular prairie outings during peak season; for example: "Picnic in the Prairie" & team up with a winery for a catered lunch, and/or simple brown bag option. Or "Painting the Prairie" and see if the Art Center would be interested in co-sponsoring to get folks out to paint wildflowers and landscapes (if offer instruction, could even be a joint fundraiser).
Continue to educate people about the importance of habitat protection (new people are moving here all the time and they don't know the "place."
Educate public about diverse values of native habitats and wildlife to foster appreciation of and concern for conservation
Educate the public about the importance of prairie conservation and the role of the HCP in achieving this goal.
education for landowners and the general public
Establish sensible outreach and communication strategies that make conservation possible
Explain to public why species protection matters.
Getting grass-seed growers to use non-toxic methods to treat fields. Huge amounts of herbicides used as pre-emergents on grass fields AS WELL AS to keep weeds from inhabiting field edges from roadside ditches directly to local creeks and the Willamette River. This practice has undoubtedly destroyed more prairie and riparian natives/sensitives than anything else. Natives could be used between crops and around edges and farmers could be compensated for any loss in production because they would be providing critical habitat.
I don't know -- it's a large task. Discourage development, population growth. We're building over everything -- when does this stop? The disconnect from the natural world has rendered us completely disrespectful towards it. Perhaps making nature second-nature to school kids (or bringing back animism). It does seem that the efforts between Parks and other concerned groups to bring back the oak savanna-prairie complex has been making inroads into some people's consciousnesses. Aggressive outreach into the community. Education and more education. I like the native plant educational outreach into public schools that one group is doing. The garden concept is quite popular among K-12, perhaps it could be expanded to include natives plants as well. Perhaps something akin to a scouting/native american experience for kids of living off the land, having to find native edibles, make string, baskets, etc. Or trying to live off your own land.
I know of many landowners who would like to participate in conservation efforts (myself included). However, due to the risk of regulations being imposed, they are not willing to "open Pandora's box". I know of patches of Kincade lupine that have not been reported to the county because of this reason. If you make it easy for private landowners to participate without fear of external control of our land... I think you will be surprised how many people want to do the right thing for the environment. I personally have been trying to figure out how I could get Kincade lupine seeds and Willamette Daisy seeds to plant on my land.... without the county's knowledge. Please help us help you. Attempts to regulate or control private land use will backfire and you will end up with more of what I hear today.... "Oh, the county is looking for endangered XYZ...better go mow down the patch before they see it and take control of my land."
I marked #3 as least priority assuming we have some \$ to get the identifying started. Encouraging voluntary partnerships is working well and needs to be enhanced further with training of personnel who will do it well.
I respectfully suggest it makes little sense to try to encourage voluntary conservation of these species without also addressing regulatory disincentives that make such work self-defeating.
Identify primary and secondary habitat needs of existing habitat and then of potential habitat which can be restored to primary habitat.
Involve university and federal scientists with land managers as well as the landowners. It seems that there is still a substantial gap between solid scientific understanding and implementation of conservation actions.

<p>My ranking above has to do with what I see as logistics. I see the whole package as important to our stewardship of the land. I'd like to see increased use of funding to support research, education and funding of strategies for landowners and residents to co-habitate the land and enhance quality of life for all who are living here together.</p>
<p>Number 8 answers from me vary by a chronology of application of methods to reach the goals. Not possible to answer in the rigid format given.</p>
<p>Overestimate the needs for recovery rather than skimp and be sorry later. Two acres for the lupine/Fender's blue does not sound like enough. Take advantage of the naturally occurring populations rather than transplant to sites you only calculate to be good ones. Remember that in our enlightened community there are many who would like to grow these beautiful though threatened species. We provide free land for experiments.</p>
<p>Please stop strangling us with restrictions on our own property.</p>
<p>Prairie Conservation Strategy should be to make the plan a resource to land owners only. No more funding, no more regulations, no adding potential candidates to the federal list.</p>
<p>RE Funding: The concept of hitting private owners of remaining viable habitat with 1/2 the cost of conservation rewards those who previously destroyed habitat... Interesting logic? arrogant power play? both? Tough call.</p>
<p>To contribute to the overall recovery of listed spp - all the geographic areas must work together to support and eventually recover prairie spp. To educate and engage the community at the local level in the conservation of rare prairie spp. for sustained change.</p>
<p>To manage prairie species within a larger biodiversity context, so that what is done for one species does not put other species at risk.</p>
<p>Work with Department of Water Resources to reduce the state allowance for exempt well withdrawals, and require metering.</p>
<p>Work with partners to ensure that there is no polarization of opinion on species protection, and ensure that the burden of species protection in the county does not fall on those few property owners on whose land the species occur, especially burden in the form of survey costs, mitigation.</p>

9. Please rate your interest in these tools for habitat conservation and management on PRIVATE land.								
	1 (very interested)	2	3	4	5 (not interested)	No opinion	Rating Average	Response Count
Educational materials with how-to tips	51.8% (58)	25.9% (29)	14.3% (16)	2.7% (3)	4.5% (5)	0.9% (1)	1.81	112
Hands-on assistance from government or other organizations (e.g. equipment, labor)	34.5% (38)	28.2% (31)	16.4% (18)	4.5% (5)	12.7% (14)	3.6% (4)	2.30	110
Technical assistance (e.g. specific project plans, guidance)	40.2% (45)	39.3% (44)	7.1% (8)	4.5% (5)	7.1% (8)	1.8% (2)	1.97	112
Financial incentives or cost sharing	36.0% (40)	28.8% (32)	15.3% (17)	6.3% (7)	9.0% (10)	4.5% (5)	2.20	111
Making seeds of endangered plants available to private land owners	48.2% (54)	31.3% (35)	11.6% (13)	1.8% (2)	5.4% (6)	1.8% (2)	1.83	112
Clear information on federal/state regulations for endangered species on private lands	50.0% (56)	29.5% (33)	11.6% (13)	2.7% (3)	5.4% (6)	0.9% (1)	1.83	112
Enforce existing species protection laws on private land	22.7% (25)	18.2% (20)	26.4% (29)	11.8% (13)	17.3% (19)	3.6% (4)	2.82	110
Neighbor to neighbor outreach	22.7% (25)	28.2% (31)	24.5% (27)	7.3% (8)	13.6% (15)	3.6% (4)	2.59	110
Volunteer program to assist with conservation	28.6% (32)	30.4% (34)	25.9% (29)	5.4% (6)	7.1% (8)	2.7% (3)	2.30	112
Selling or donating a conservation easement	18.0% (20)	24.3% (27)	18.0% (20)	6.3% (7)	23.4% (26)	9.9% (11)	2.92	111
Recognition program for exemplary conservation stewards	25.9% (29)	26.8% (30)	18.8% (21)	10.7% (12)	13.4% (15)	4.5% (5)	2.57	112
Describe other ideas here:								16
answered question								112
skipped question								20

9. Describe other ideas here:

All of the above are useful approaches.
Benton County Plan should only be a resource for land owners to use when applying to ODF&W for a permit.
Consistent with my previous comment, I hope that Benton County and USFWS will consider an alternate strategy of openly refraining from regulating private land use based on the presence of these species. Such regulation inadvertently generally makes it self-defeating for private landowners to conserve or maintain these species. Also, such regulation seems to offer little benefit to these species, because landowners can at least in theory lawfully evade such regulation by doing nothing and letting these species succumb to invasive exotic species or succession. I'd like to think that such innovation might also help Benton County and USFWS avoid similar conflicts in the future and similarly benefit many other declining, maintenance-dependent species on private land, such as the Western gray squirrel and numerous bird species. Such a strategy might also save Benton County and private landowners thousands of dollars in pointless mitigation fees or in liability for such fees. Such a strategy might coincidentally improve human liberty, by creating a limited right for individuals to use their own resources to conserve or maintain these species without selectively incurring harm from regulation for doing so. I hope Benton County and USFWS find a way to realize such an alternative strategy. I believe that by doing so, Benton County and USFWS have a remarkable opportunity to do something great for these species and for landowners alike, while coincidentally allowing willing individuals to do as Leopold did, without getting screwed for it. (I appreciate that some suggest Safe Harbor Agreements already allow this, but I find that this is not so, due to confusion as to whether SHAs are intended to improve the fate of species by dispelling regulatory disincentives or by seeking exactions from private landowners. Also, SHAs do nothing to dispel regulatory disincentives for maintaining existing populations of listed species.) Let's do something great!
Enforcement of pesticide laws within the public right-of-way. Private entrepreneurs have been routinely allowed to pour herbicides onto the public's right of ways throughout the grass-seed growing region. If there were enforcement of the laws, contacts with farmers who are illegally treating the right of way would be a good context for educating farmers about natives, sensitive plants, weeds, and herbicides.
I am very in favor of meeting requirements of existing species protection laws on private land, but in my experience you achieve better results by encouraging/educating rather than enforcing.
I appreciate all that you've been doing thus far. I don't know what else to address except to continue to reach the NEXT generation through hands-on programs through the schools and home-schoolers to increase awareness of how the ecosystems work and how to be good stewards of the land.
I dont know what you mean by enforce existing ESA lawson private lands since they do not apply to plants on private lands. Also, I odn't know if conservation easements apply to my small .25 acre property.
I really worry how "assistance" would be implemented. I am not sure that you understand the difference between "help" and "enforcement". Also, at least in this survey, you don't seem to differentiate between somebody building an 8x12 shed and a large commercial development. I happen to thing that there is a difference.
In terms of equip. assistance, would like access to a no til drill to min. seed cost and max. effective planting.
Last item, not interested personally, but interested in supporting Green Space and easement aquisition.
leave private land alone.
Making seeds available in a structured systematic way would be fine. Financial/tax incentives for private landowners to participate in conservation.

pollinator programs for how to go about encouraging native pollinators using native plant species, while stressing the necessity of providing nesting sites (compact earth etc) -- also education about the parasite load native species have to endure.

Stop this madness! Leave me alone!

Website or portal for sharing HCP tools and experiences with other counties and throughout the State.

Work with watershed councils, SWCDs and other agencies who are already providing services and conducting surveys in the area, to coordinate strategies.

10. Please rate these tools for improved habitat conservation and management on PUBLIC land.

	1 (most effective)	2	3	4	5 (least effective)	No opinion	Rating Average	Response Count
Manage park and open space lands for habitat conservation	65.8% (73)	19.8% (22)	7.2% (8)	2.7% (3)	3.6% (4)	0.9% (1)	1.57	111
Volunteer program to assist with conservation	30.0% (33)	45.5% (50)	16.4% (18)	4.5% (5)	3.6% (4)	0.0% (0)	2.06	110
Manage road and other rights of way for habitat conservation	39.1% (43)	32.7% (36)	12.7% (14)	5.5% (6)	9.1% (10)	0.9% (1)	2.12	110
Control invasive species	81.1% (90)	9.0% (10)	4.5% (5)	1.8% (2)	2.7% (3)	0.9% (1)	1.35	111
Acquire habitat types that are currently under-represented and needed for connectivity	61.6% (69)	22.3% (25)	6.3% (7)	1.8% (2)	7.1% (8)	0.9% (1)	1.69	112
Develop partnerships between agencies for management across ownership boundaries	53.6% (59)	29.1% (32)	7.3% (8)	1.8% (2)	6.4% (7)	1.8% (2)	1.76	110
Enforce existing laws on public land	45.5% (50)	26.4% (29)	17.3% (19)	2.7% (3)	7.3% (8)	0.9% (1)	1.99	110
"Adopt a roadside" program for volunteers to manage populations along roads	27.9% (31)	31.5% (35)	24.3% (27)	9.9% (11)	5.4% (6)	0.9% (1)	2.33	111
County Naturalist staff position	27.0% (30)	31.5% (35)	16.2% (18)	9.0% (10)	13.5% (15)	2.7% (3)	2.49	111
Describe other ideas here:								13
answered question								112
skipped question								20

10. Describe other ideas here:

All excellent ideas if they can be implemented. Park personnel must be selected for their knowledge of native ecosystems along with the other requirements. Too often they're chosen for things like their knowledge of hardscaping, and they're hostile to the idea of native plants.
All of the above are helpful approaches.
Another "make a guess" question. We need reports on what has happened following application of these methods in order to rate their effectiveness.
I introduced the citizen participation idea of "Adopt a ditch" but it did not take root. I still think it's a good one with adequate leadership.
I'm not sure that a "naturalist" will have the political skills to overcome the misinformation that is already alarming people in the areas you have mapped out. You need a "people" person, preferably someone from the area, who can organize volunteers and get clear information to landowners.
I'm very grateful to USFWS for proposing \$16 million in funding to recover these species, whether it is spent on public or private lands. I'd like to think that such funding is not only essential to the survival of these species, but that such funding could go much further without regulatory disincentives that make it self-defeating to maintain these species.
log and restore macdonald forest to prairie habitat
No budgetary funding PERIOD!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
NO MORE GOVERNMENT POSITIONS. TAXES ARE RIDICULOUS ALREADY!!!
RE: Control invasive species --- Doesn't the effective of this depend greatly on what species you are trying to protect? This seems to me to be a HUGE amount of work (think \$\$\$\$\$) RE: County Naturalist staff position --- No new bureaucracies PLEASE! RE: Enforce existing laws on public land --- Important but zealots should not be in charge. We don't need a new holy war, we need practical, fair minded, flexible solutions (hey it ain't gonna be perfect!!)
Staffing and Funding are always the issues - focus on how to provide long-term funding strategies to support the above
We just have a back (and front) yard in town, but we have pretty good habitat. How could we improve it? (Program like the EnergyTrust's home evaluations, but in this case, for habitat effectiveness.)
Work through the myriad of organizations and agencies already in place (NRCS, NFWS, Marys River Watershed Council, Benton SWCD, OSU Extension, Corvallis Environmental Center, ODF, ODA, etc....) rather than creating a new program with even more staff and budgets.