

Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District

ANNUAL REPORT
2022-2023



Contents

Staff & Board.....	1
Director's Message	2
Our Work	3
Financial Report	4
Impact.....	5
Highlights	6
Final Thoughts	8

Staff & Board

Staff

Executive Director
Jill Smedstad

Business Manager
Trevor Morris

Office Assistant
Kim Ingram

Soil and Water Conservation Engineer
Paul DeMaggio

Community Water Resource
Conservationist
Kora Mousseaux

Forest Resource Conservationist
Meghan Montgomery

Riparian Resource Conservationist
Clint Nichols

Agricultural Resource Conservationist
Josh Bilbao

Stewardship Monitoring Coordinator
Jenna Sanford

Education and Outreach Coordinator
Hannah Satein

Board of Directors

Zone 1
Frank Baratta

Zone 2, Vice-Chairwoman
Barbara Niedermeyer

Zone 3
Nicky Webb-Smith

Zone 4
Don Hamann

Zone 5
Ron Hillers

At Large, Chairman
Stan Dean

At Large
Katelyn Detweiler

Associate Director
Pam Hillers

Director Emeritus
Gordon Jones

Director Emeritus
Juanita Wright

Director's Message

Greetings,

I am so grateful to have this opportunity to introduce myself.

I began my time here at JSWCD as the Executive Director in April 2023 and experienced a warm and inviting welcome from staff, the board, and our amazing partners. Randy White left some big shoes to fill, and I am thankful that he and the staff had the foresight to develop a solid succession plan which greatly aided in my transition upon his retirement.

The JSWCD team has a legacy of providing invaluable conservation assistance throughout the county. I look forward to building on our legacy and continuing to increase opportunities for residents of Jackson County to implement on-the-ground conservation practices on their farms, ranches, forests, backyards, and neighborhoods.



This Annual Report provides just a snapshot of the work of this amazing team throughout 2022-2023, and I hope you will be as impressed as I am with all we have accomplished!

With gratitude,

Jill Smedstad

Our Work

Mission

To conserve, protect, and enhance natural resources for the economic, environmental, and quality of life benefits for the residents of Jackson County.



Goals

Improve and increase:

- Water Quality
 - Water Conservation
 - Soil Health
 - Riparian Function
 - Forest Health
 - Community Knowledge and Awareness
-

Areas of Service

Technical Assistance

Site visits, project design and planning, management plans

Outreach

Sharing information and opportunities to engage

Education

Adult and youth classes, internships, events

Financial Assistance

JSWCD grants and external funds to implement conservation

Monitoring

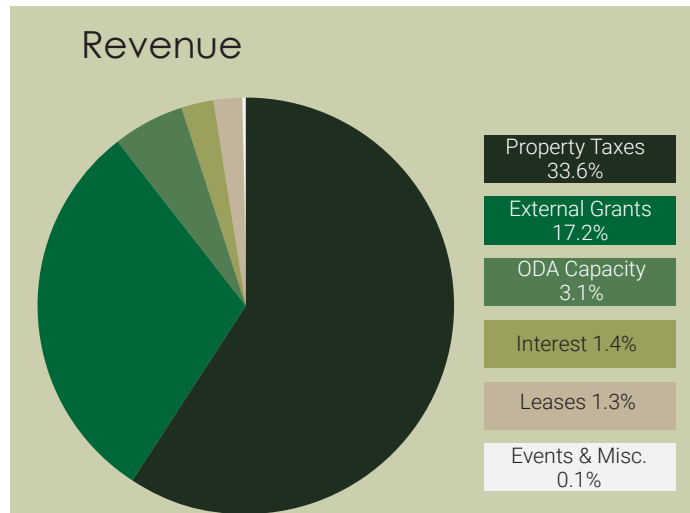
Long-term monitoring, project-based monitoring

Financial Report

Fiscal Year 2022-2023, ending June 30, 2023

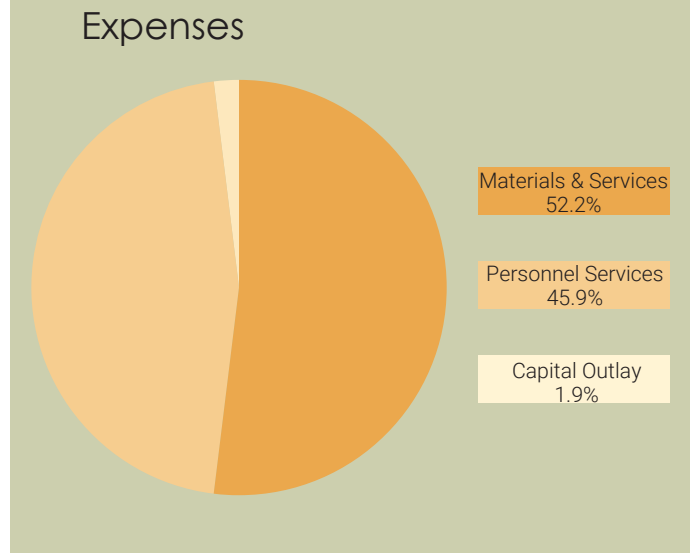
Revenue

Property Taxes	\$1,172,051
External Grants	\$597,903
ODA Capacity Support	\$109,465
Interest	\$48,792
Leases	\$43,555
Event Tuition	\$1,924
Miscellaneous	\$1,318
Total Revenue	\$1,975,008



Expenses

Materials & Services	\$1,033,798
Personnel Services	\$909,568
Capital Outlay	\$38,013
Total Expenses	\$1,981,379



Balance

Beginning Balance	\$1,511,192
Ending Balance	\$1,504,821
Revenue - Expenses	-\$6,371

Impact

By the Numbers

Provided site visits and technical assistance to more than **200** Jackson County residents.



Facilitated **8** community meetings and open houses to inform the community about project opportunities.

Participated in more than **14** natural resource conservation partnerships, technical review teams, and boards.

Treated **270** acres of forestland for post-fire restoration, fuels reduction, and hardwood restoration.

Improved **54** acres of riparian habitat: planted **4,750** trees, built **7,514** feet of fence, and protected **1.3** miles of stream.



Provided advanced technical assistance that will increase reliability and efficiency of irrigation water delivery for more than **21,994** acres of agricultural land.



Monitored water quality at **15** different field sites across **3** landscape-scale monitoring projects.

Supplied **22,175** gallons of rainwater storage.

Provided grant funding to support direct education delivery to **1,280** K-12 students.

Taught **26** classes on natural resource management topics for community members.



Highlights

Forest Health

Completed 185 acres of upland forest restoration in the South Obenchain fire footprint. Secured \$1 million for further restoration in the footprint.

Staff and residents discuss forest restoration during an outreach event in the fire footprint.



Riparian Restoration

Secured \$1 million to restore 70 acres of riparian forest in the Reese Creek watershed that was burned in the S. Obenchain fire.

Staff help mulch recent riparian plantings on a project site.

Water Quality and Conservation

Conducted planning and design to pipe over 7,000 feet of open irrigation ditch in partnership with Applegate Partnership & Watershed Council. The project will result in improved irrigation for 180 acres of prime farmland and conserve 0.36 CFS of water instream in the Little Applegate River.



Staff at the project site.



Completed 6 rainwater harvest projects (totaling 22,175 gallons) for water quality and water supply benefits. Began 12 additional projects (totaling 50,915 gallons).

Staff in front of a completed rainwater harvest project.

Education

Funded a garden education program for 80 K-8 students with curriculum covering composting, soil amendments, erosion management, and cover cropping.

Final Thoughts

Staff Transitions

The end of March brought about a significant change as our director of 19 years, Randy White, retired. Randy worked for JSWCD for 20 years, and in natural resources in Jackson County for over 30. During his career, Randy had an immeasurable impact on the people and natural places of the county. In terms of JSWCD alone, he oversaw the growth of the District from a staff of 1.5 to our current 10, dramatically increasing the help we can provide.



March also saw us reach a new milestone: becoming a staff of 10, as we welcomed Josh Bilbao on as our new agricultural resource conservationist. Meghan Montgomery, previously in the position, now serves as our forest resource conservationist and Clint Nichols is now our riparian resource conservationist, after covering both forest and riparian work for the last several years.

Stay in Touch



[Website](#)



[Facebook](#)



[Instagram](#)



[Email List](#)

Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District

WWW.JSWCD.ORG 541-423-6159

