

***Southern Willamette Valley
Groundwater Management Area
Agriculture Subcommittee
Process Update and Review***



Mike Powers



Presentation Outline

- George Pugh
 - Agriculture Subcommittee Introductions
 - A Few Words
- DRAFT Proposed Plan Development Process
- Obtaining Comment
- Summary



Agriculture Subcommittee

- George Pugh
- Jerry Marguth
- Karen Stromeyer
- Roger Haffner
- Rick Funke
- Scott Gibson
- Cliff Wooten



A Few Words



Proposed Process

- Collect information
 - ✓ Convene the subcommittee
 - ✓ Meet with technical experts
 - ✓ Determine what has already been done and what is being done now

Proposed Process (continued)

- DRAFT Proposed Ag Plan Outline
 - Describe Agriculture in the Southern Willamette Valley
 - Show how agriculture is changing
 - **Example: acreages planted to mint and vegetables have decreased significantly while acres planted to grass seed has increased**

Proposed Process (continued)

- DRAFT Proposed Ag Plan Outline
 - Describe Agriculture in the Southern Willamette Valley
 - Show how agriculture is changing
 - **Example: expect to show a decrease in nitrogen (N) applications**
 - **Example: Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) are more tightly regulated today**

Proposed Process (continued)

- DRAFT Proposed Ag Plan Outline
 - Opportunities For Improvement
 - Best Management Practices

Proposed Process (continued)

- **DRAFT Proposed Ag Plan Outline - BMPs**
 - **Fertilizer timing**
 - **Irrigation timing**
 - **Irrigation system maintenance and measurements**
 - **Cover Crops**
 - **Deeper rooted crops in crop rotations**
 - **No-till to reduce N mineralization**

Proposed Process (continued)

- DRAFT Proposed Ag Plan Outline
 - Plan Goals and Implementation
 - Goals, Strategies and Actions
 - **Sample Goals**
 - Education and Outreach
 - BMP Implementation
 - Financial Assistance
 - Monitor and Evaluate Effectiveness

Proposed Process (continued)

- DRAFT Proposed Ag Plan Outline
 - Plan Goals and Implementation
 - Goals, Strategies and Actions
 - **Sample Strategies**
 - Encourage education programs to promote public awareness of groundwater quality issues
 - Build partnerships with agribusiness and agencies to promote groundwater quality

Proposed Process (continued)

- DRAFT Proposed Ag Plan Outline
 - Plan Goals and Implementation
 - Goals, Strategies and Actions
 - **Sample Actions**
 - Develop demonstration projects showcasing successful management practices and systems
 - Develop educational materials in conjunction with agribusiness, commodity, and volunteer groups

Proposed Process (continued)

- DRAFT Proposed Ag Plan Outline
 - Plan Goals and Implementation
 - Goals, Strategies and Actions
 - **Challenge: making the actions, and our success, measurable. We have some good ideas, but more work necessary.**

Proposed Process (continued)

- DRAFT Proposed Ag Plan Outline
 - Plan Goals and Implementation
 - Implementation
 - **Will augment existing water quality efforts (OAR 603-090-0000(1))**
 - Three Ag Water Quality Management Areas intersect at the GWMA
 - Will propose to involve traditional partners: SWCDs and NRCS

Proposed Process (continued)

- DRAFT Proposed Ag Plan Outline
 - Implementation
 - **Will propose to include OSU and OSU Extension for research and outreach efforts**
 - **Will propose to partner with willing watershed councils**

Proposed Process (continued)

- Agriculture comment on DRAFT plan
 - Will offer comment opportunities to SWCDs, OSU and OSU Extension technical experts
 - Will provide the DRAFT plan for review and comment by the three Local Advisory Committees
 - DEQ will provide additional comment
- Finalize document with subcommittee and DEQ review

Summary

- Collect Information
 - On-going
- DRAFT Plan Outline
 - Describe SWV Agriculture
 - Review Opportunities for Improvement -- BMPs
 - Goals and Implementation
- Obtain Comments
- Finalize with Subcommittee and DEQ

THANKS!

Mike Powers

(503) 986-4761

<http://egov.oregon.gov/ODA/>

