



*Promoting Natural Resource Conservation and  
Economic Stability in the Coquille Watershed*

December 20th, 2017

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

What a year it has been for the Coquille Watershed Association! Our accomplishments this year include: implementing the organization's first tidegate replacement and channel enhancement project on the mainstem Coquille River, surveying watershed conditions in the Sandy Creek and Steel Creek basins, serving on the Gorse Action Group and helping to launch the South Coast Cooperative Weed Management Area that encompasses Coos and Curry Counties! We are also very excited about where we are heading in 2018: bringing on new staff members, creating a Strategic Plan for the next 5 years, growing our Education and Outreach Program, and continuing to plan and implement high value, win-win restoration projects on working landscapes. Our accomplishments would not be possible without the generous support from people like you: landowners, community members, and project partners.

The 1,059-square mile Coquille River Watershed is the largest river system in Oregon to originate from the Coast Range and the watershed's 4 forks run through sections of Coos, Douglas and Curry Counties. The watershed is 1,000 sq miles in size and includes the cities of Powers, Coquille, Myrtle Point, Camas Valley and Bandon. The Coquille Watershed Association (CoqWA) was formed in 1993 by a group of local citizens who were concerned about the health of their watershed and its fish, wildlife and human resources. Their mission was clear; to coordinate the assessment of the watershed's conditions and to implement proven management practices that are designed to support environmental integrity and economic stability for the communities of the Coquille watershed.

From our humble beginning, the CoqWA has established a well-organized restoration program that is valued and supported throughout the watershed. We operate on a budget of approximately \$400,000 a year, and 90% of our funding remains in the watershed in the form of jobs through on-the-ground restoration projects and locally-purchased supplies & materials. CoqWA aims to accomplish voluntary restoration projects with willing landowners to enhance working lands, water quality, and salmon habitat. We have done this through many means including instream habitat projects, culvert and tidegate replacements, and riparian fencing and planting projects.

We are able to obtain funding for watershed projects by acquiring grants that pay for the implementation & administration of projects, but grants do not pay for additional organizational support, which is where our member drive is an important annual event for our organization. We hope you consider joining or renewing your membership and sharing our letter with friends and family! By becoming a member, you are supporting our work to build community around the shared values of enhancing the local economy and stewarding our natural resources. Membership donations will be spent on equipment (such as weed eaters, GPS, etc.), informational brochures and educational materials. As a nonprofit 501(c)(3), donations to the CoqWA are tax-deductible, and our Tax ID number is 93-1171301. Please feel free to call me or Julie Huff, CoqWA Board President, with any questions, and thank you very much for your support!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Melaney Dunne  
Executive Director  
Coquille Watershed Association

Julie Huff  
President – Board of Operating Officers  
Coquille Watershed Association

Coquille Watershed Association  
390 N. Central Blvd.  
Coquille, OR 97423  
541.396.2541