

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR BENTON COUNTY, OREGON**

**IN THE MATTER OF A RESOLUTION)
TO FORMALLY RECOGNIZE THE ALSEA)
WATERSHED COUNCIL, AS THE)
VOLUNTARY WATERSHED COUNCIL)
INTENDED TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT) RESOLUTION NO. R2008-007
A WATERSHED ACTION PROGRAM TO)
PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE NATURAL)
RESOURCES OF THE ALSEA RIVER)
WATERSHED)**

WHEREAS, ORS 541.347(2)(a) encourages the initiation of voluntary programs at the local level to protect and enhance the quality and stability of watersheds; and

WHEREAS, ORS 541.350(7) defines a watershed council as “voluntary local organization designated by a local government group convened by a county governing body to address the goal of sustaining a natural resource and watershed protection with a water shed;” and

WHEREAS, ORS 541.388(1) encourages local government groups to form voluntary local watershed councils; and

WHEREAS, ORS 541.388(2) states that local watershed councils shall consist of a majority of local residents, including local officials, and that the council represent a balance of interested and affected persons within the watershed and assure a high level of citizen involvement in the development and implementation of a watershed action program; and

WHEREAS, the Alsea Watershed Council began an informational and organizational meeting in December of 1997 and established an organizational charter in June of 1998; and

WHEREAS, after separating from a basin planning team status with the MidCoast Watersheds Council umbrella in June of 2005 and establishing a steering committee; and

WHEREAS, the Alsea Watershed Council adopted bylaws on 28 December 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Alsea Watershed Council received non-profit status in May 2007 with an effective date of 26 December 2006; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the Alsea Watershed Council includes landowners in the Alsea River Watershed as well as representatives of local government, public interest groups, and industries, with a mailing list of about 120; and

WHEREAS, article 1.02 of the Alsea Watershed Council bylaws states that “The mission of the Alsea Watershed Council is to maintain or enhance the fauna, flora, and water of the Alsea watershed, while also taking into consideration the economic and social needs of the human population, and providing a forum for people to work through differences and come to some common ground;” and

WHEREAS, membership in the Alsea Watershed Council is open to any individual supporting the purpose and mission of the Alsea Watershed Council, living within the watershed or representing a group or organization active within the watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Benton County Board of Commissioners and its staff have examined the bylaws and organization activities to date of the Alsea Watershed Council and finds that they are consistent with ORS 541.345 to 541.400;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Benton County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes the Alsea Watershed Council as the watershed council which will serve the entire Alsea River Watershed; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Benton County Board of Commissioners encourages the Alsea Watershed Council to maintain an organization which represents a balance of interested and affected persons within the watershed; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Benton County Commissioners encourages the Alsea Watershed Council to develop and implement watershed action programs intended to protect and enhance the quality of stability of the Alsea River Watershed both for the health of the watershed and for the economic and social betterment of the individuals, organizations, and communities in the watershed; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Benton County Commissioners request the Alsea Watershed Council to make progress reports to the Board of Commissioners on at least an annual basis.

Dated this 25 day of March, 2008.

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Linda Modrell, Chair


Jay Dixon, Commissioner


Annabelle Jaramillo, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Vance Croney, County Counsel

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR LINCOLN COUNTY, OREGON

IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING A)
RESOLUTION FORMALLY RECOGNIZING)
THE ALSEA WATERSHED COUNCIL, AS THE)
VOLUNTARY WATERSHED COUNCIL)
INTENDED TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT)
A WATERSHED ACTION PROGRAM TO)
PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE NATURAL)
RESOURCES OF THE ALSEA RIVER)
WATERSHED)

RESOLUTION NO. 08-07-05F
Amending
Resolution No. 07-05-12A

WHEREAS Resolution No. 07-05-12A, was adopted on December 5, 2007, and is amended as follows:

WHEREAS, ORS 541.347(2)(a) encourages the initiation of voluntary programs at the local level to protect and enhance the quality and stability of watersheds; and

WHEREAS, ORS 541.350(7) defines a watershed council as "voluntary local organization designated by a local government group convened by a county governing body to address the goal of sustaining a natural resource and watershed protection with a water shed;" and

WHEREAS, ORS 541.388(1) encourages local government groups to form voluntary local watershed councils; and

WHEREAS, ORS 541.388(2) states that local watershed councils shall consist of a majority of local residents, including local officials, and that the council represent a balance of interested and affected persons within the watershed and assure a high level of citizen involvement in the development and implementation of a watershed action program; and

WHEREAS, the Alsea Watershed Council began an informational and organizational meeting in December of 1997 and established an organizational charter in June of 1998; and

WHEREAS, after separating from a basin planning team status with the MidCoast Watersheds Council umbrella in June of 2005 and establishing a steering committee, the Alsea Watershed Council adopted bylaws on 28 December 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Alsea Watershed Council received non-profit status in May 2007 with an effective date of 26 December 2006; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the Alsea Watershed Council includes landowners in the Alsea River Watershed as well as representatives of local government, public interest groups, and industries, with a mailing list of about 120; and

WHEREAS, article 1.02 of the Alsea Watershed Council bylaws states that "The mission of the Alsea Watershed Council is to maintain or enhance the fauna, flora, and water of the Alsea watershed,

while also taking into consideration the economic and social needs of the human population, and providing a forum for people to work through differences and come to some common ground;" and

WHEREAS, membership in the Alsea Watershed Council is open to any individual supporting the purpose and mission of the Alsea Watershed Council, living within the watershed or representing a group or organization active within the watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners and its staff have examined the bylaws and organization activities to date of the Alsea Watershed Council and finds that they are consistent with ORS 541.345 to 541.400;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes the Alsea Watershed Council as the watershed council which will serve the entire Alsea River Watershed; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners encourages the Alsea Watershed Council to maintain an organization which represents a balance of interested and affected persons within the watershed; and


IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Commissioners encourages the Alsea Watershed Council to develop and implement watershed action programs intended to protect and enhance the quality of stability of the Alsea River Watershed both for the health of the watershed and for the economic and social betterment of the individuals, organizations, and communities in the watershed; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Commissioners request the Alsea Watershed Council to make progress reports to the Board of Commissioners on at least an annual basis.

Dated this 7th day of May, 2008.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


TERRY N. THOMPSON, Chair


DON LINDLY, Commissioner


BILL HALL, Commissioner

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

Order No. 08-7-30-10

) IN THE MATTER OF
) RECOGNIZING THE ALSEA
) WATERSHED COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the Alsea Watershed Council requests to be officially recognized by Lane County for the portion of the Alsea River basin located in Lane County; and

WHEREAS, Lane Manual 3.508 establishes the criteria and process for official recognition of watershed councils by this Board; and

WHEREAS, the Alsea Watershed Council's mission is to maintain or enhance the fauna, flora, and water of the entire Alsea watershed, while also taking into consideration the economic and social needs of the human population, and providing a forum for people to work through differences and come to some common ground; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the Alsea Watershed Council includes landowners in the Alsea River Watershed, representatives of local government, public interest groups, and industries, is open to any individual living within the watershed or representing an active group or organization within that watershed and the council will be able to sustain a high level of citizen involvement in the development and implementation of a watershed action plan; and

WHEREAS, on December 5, 2007, the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners recognized the Alsea Watershed Council as a council that will serve the entire Alsea River watershed consistent with ORS 541.345 to 541.400.

NOW, IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Lane County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes the Alsea Watershed Council as the council that will serve the entire Alsea River Watershed, including the area within Lane County.

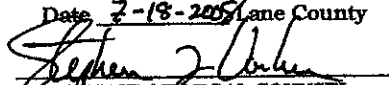
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Lane County Board of Commissioners encourages the Alsea Watershed Council to represent a balance of interested and affected persons within the designated watershed, to develop and implement watershed action programs intended to protect and enhance the quality of the Alsea River watershed both for the health of the watershed and for the economic and social betterment of the individuals, organizations, and communities in the watershed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Alsea Watershed Council shall make periodic progress reports to the Board on its activities, at least on an annual basis.

DATED this 30th of July 2008.



Chair, Lane County Board of Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Date 7-13-2008 Lane County

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for the integrity of the financial system and for the ability to detect and prevent fraud.

2. The second part of the document outlines the specific requirements for record-keeping, including the need to maintain original documents and to keep copies of all transactions. It also discusses the importance of regular audits and the role of internal controls in ensuring the accuracy of the records.

3. The third part of the document discusses the consequences of failing to maintain accurate records, including the potential for financial loss and the risk of legal action. It also discusses the importance of training staff in proper record-keeping procedures and the need for ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the record-keeping system.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the importance of transparency and accountability in the financial system. It emphasizes that accurate records are essential for providing a clear and accurate picture of the organization's financial performance and for ensuring that all transactions are properly documented and audited.

5. The fifth part of the document discusses the importance of data security and the need to protect financial records from unauthorized access and theft. It also discusses the importance of regular backups and the use of secure storage methods to ensure the integrity and availability of the records.

6. The sixth part of the document discusses the importance of compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding record-keeping. It emphasizes that organizations must stay up-to-date on changes in the law and must ensure that their record-keeping practices are in full compliance with all applicable requirements.

7. The seventh part of the document discusses the importance of communication and collaboration between different departments and individuals involved in the record-keeping process. It emphasizes that clear communication and coordination are essential for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the records.

8. The eighth part of the document discusses the importance of continuous improvement and the need to regularly review and update record-keeping procedures. It emphasizes that organizations should seek feedback from staff and other stakeholders and should be willing to make changes to their procedures as needed to improve the effectiveness of the record-keeping system.

9. The ninth part of the document discusses the importance of documentation and the need to keep a clear and concise record of all record-keeping activities. It emphasizes that organizations should maintain a log of all record-keeping tasks and should document any changes or updates to the record-keeping system.

10. The tenth part of the document discusses the importance of training and the need to provide ongoing education and support to staff involved in the record-keeping process. It emphasizes that organizations should invest in training and development to ensure that staff have the skills and knowledge needed to perform their record-keeping duties effectively.



Board of Commissioners

Courthouse, Room 110
225 W. Olive Street
Newport, Oregon 97365
(541) 265-4100
FAX (541) 265-4176

September 5, 2008

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360
Salem OR 97301-1290

RE: Alsea Watershed Council

This letter is being written to express our concern about the status of the Alsea Watershed Council (AWC) and to support its efforts to obtain council support funding through the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). As a board, we believe in the concept of local self-determination and governance that was fundamental to the original legislation (which Commissioner Thompson helped pass as a State Representative) establishing the watershed council system.

The unwillingness of OWEB staff to provide council support funds to the AWC places our board in a difficult situation. We believed that by adopting a resolution recognizing the AWC, then modifying that resolution to recognize it as "the" watershed council for the Alsea basin, we were providing recognition of the AWC as the primary council for that basin. Now we learn that without specifically redrawing the MidCoast Watersheds Council's (MCWC) boundaries to exclude them from the Alsea basin, the AWC will be denied access to these important capacity-building funds. We understand OWEB at one point discussed mediation services between AWC and MCWC to resolve this funding issue, but nothing has gone forward. We would recommend OWEB offer a mediation effort as soon as possible and before any final decisions are made.

As a board, we have been impressed by the efforts of the AWC to build working relationships with landowners in the Alsea basin and other key partners. At the same time, we acknowledge that the MCWC has a strong track record of bringing major projects to fruition in the Alsea basin. Our reluctance to modify the MCWC recognition resolution reflects a desire not to negatively impact its operational capacity.

We have been told that several other watershed councils in the state are attempting to establish their independence from their umbrella councils. The concept of regionalization may be worthwhile in theory, but is apparently flawed in practice. We understand the fewer councils your department has to deal with reduces your workload, but obviously bigger is not always better. We would strongly urge OWEB to consider another model, perhaps something along the lines of a consortium, where local councils could pool financial resources and technical expertise but still have the autonomy to chart their own destiny.

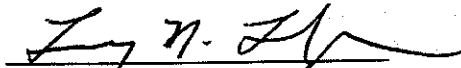



We have been in communication the Benton and Lane County Boards of Commissioners on this issue and understand it is important we have consensus. The short timeline has not given us an opportunity to have a good public process allowing both councils to make their case and the general public to comment. If required to make a decision by your September 16, 2008 meeting, we will. We think it would be in the public's interest to allow us some additional time to make this important decision.


Although we believe the original enabling legislation for councils did not envision an ongoing oversight role for the recognizing local government, we feel strongly about this issue, will continue to monitor the situation, and may take further action at some point in the future.

Sincerely,

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Terry N. Thompson, Chair


Don Lindly, Commissioner


Bill Hall, Commissioner

- c: Wayne Hoffman, MidCoast Watersheds Council, 23 N Coast Highway, Newport OR 97365
✓ Linda Johnston, Alsea Watershed Council, 10518 E Five Rivers Rd, Tidewater OR 97390



Update on Alsea WSC council support funding

Good Day Commissioners,

OWEB has decreed the Alsea WSC will NOT receive a council support grant.

We went through OWEB directed mediation with a professional facilitator.

We finalized an MOU with MidCoast Watersheds Council.

We submitted a joint council support grant with MCWC, Salmon/Drift WSC and the AWC.

We acted in good faith and spent many, many hours on this process.

In May OWEB met with us and said this joint grant will not work.

Their solution was to offer the AWC a one-time only, limited warranty, non-support grant for \$17,000/biennium from Salmon Recovery Funds. The OWEB Board approved this at the June meeting. There are strings attached.

The AWC is required to attend MCWC general meetings and give a report.

The AWC is required to attend all the MCWC tech team meetings; we might learn something.

The AWC is required to meet with the MCWC quarterly to discuss planning. And so on.

Oh, the AWC, if good, will receive a bit of funds for meeting planning and project planning.

And did I mention the MCWC will receive full council support funding?

The contract features the MOU, which repeatedly references the joint support grant. When we questioned the validity of this, there was no real response.

We had a conversation with a legal professional about this "non-existent document" and decided the issue had to be addressed. So we added an addendum to the MOU stating all references to the joint council support grant are null and void.

The contract still has not arrived for signature, although we have been told twice "it is in the mail." We wait.

Now you know the saga of the AWC quest for council support funding. At least we know where we stand. From our position, it is not particularly encouraging, but we will persevere.

We may seek your advice in future, after we regroup and tend to the wounded.

Thanks for all your support.

Linda J & Board
AWC

*Sent via email to all
Commissioners of the three
Counties.
Late fall 2008*



File Code: 1560
Date: June 7, 2012

Adam Liljeblad
Community Capacity & Land Stewardship Program
National Forest Foundation
Building 27, Suite 3 Fort Missoula Rd.
Missoula, MT 59804

Dear Mr. Liljeblad:

The Siuslaw National Forest strongly supports the Alsea Watershed Collaborative Partnership Proposal. We have been collaborating with local watershed councils, state, and federal agencies to restore Oregon Coast coho salmon, a federally threatened species, for over a decade. Currently, National Forest System lands contain some of the best remaining coho salmon habitat on the Oregon Coast. Historically, most coho salmon production came from private land. Watershed councils are the primary organizations initiating and implementing watershed restoration activities on private land in Oregon. Watershed restoration activities on private land increase production of coho salmon on the Siuslaw National Forest. Coho salmon's extensive migratory behavior from freshwater spawning and rearing areas to the ocean, and then returning to freshwater streams to spawn, requires high quality habitat conditions throughout the stream network. The Alsea Watershed Council is working collaboratively with the Siuslaw National Forest to create high quality fish habitat conditions throughout the Alsea Watershed.

The Siuslaw National Forest and the Alsea Watershed Council have collaborated on several watershed restoration projects over the last few years. Projects have included landowner outreach to initiate and develop restoration on private land, technical assistance in designing stream restoration on private land, and employment of local contractors to add large wood to over 15 miles of coho habitat in the Alsea Watershed, primarily on Siuslaw National Forest lands. These projects benefit coho habitat and are part of a longer term process that develops mutual understanding and trust among diverse individuals and interest groups. We believe that mutual understanding and trust are needed to restore aquatic habitats in the Alsea Watershed considering the diverse land ownership patterns. The monthly Alsea Watershed Council meetings are an important forum for local landowners and restoration practitioners to share information about restoration issues, needs, opportunities, and funding sources.

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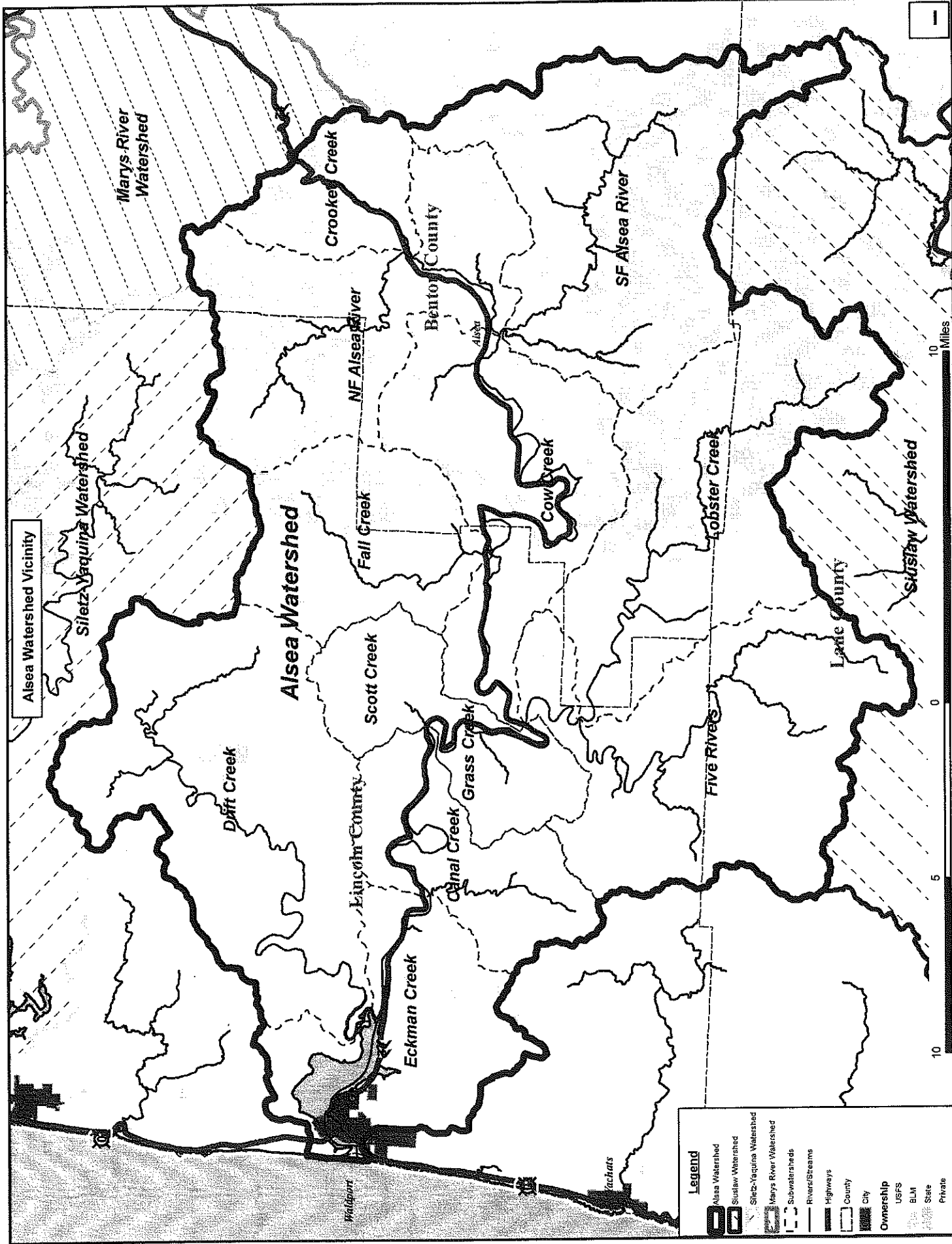


We are impressed with the watershed restoration and education activities produced by the Council. The Alsea Watershed Council will continue to be an important partner with the Siuslaw National Forest as we continue to work collaboratively to facilitate watershed restoration throughout the Alsea Watershed.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jeremiah C. Ingersoll
JEREMIAH C. INGERSOLL
Forest Supervisor

cc: Linda Johnston



Alsea Watershed Vicinity

Legend

- Alsea Watershed
- Skidlaw Watershed
- Siletz-Yaquina Watershed
- Marys River Watershed
- Subwatersheds
- Rivers/Streams
- Highways
- County
- City
- Ownership**
- USFS
- BLM
- State
- Private



Alsea Watershed Council

History:

The Alsea Watershed Council (AWC) formed in 1998 with an organizational charter and a membership of about 50 people. The AWC, after much discussion, voted to join the MidCoast Watersheds Council (MCWC) as part of the umbrella group. In 2005 the AWC separated from the MCWC in an effort to better serve the people and landowners of the Alsea Basin. In 2007 the AWC obtained 501c3 non-profit status from the IRS. Although we continue to be a volunteer organization, our current contact list is about 140 people and agencies.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Alsea Watershed Council is to help manage the natural resources of the Alsea watershed. The AWC is a non-profit, volunteer organization run by local people and welcomes the participation of all who are concerned with being good stewards while considering the economic and social needs of Benton, Lincoln and Lane Counties. The AWC provides a forum for people to work through differences and come to common ground.

Partners:

The AWC works with many different landowners and agencies:
Alsea Stewardship Group, US Forest Service, OR Dept of Fish & Wildlife, Port of Alsea
Bureau of Land Management, private timber companies, Rocky Mt Elk Foundation
Benton, Lane, Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation Districts & Public Works Dept
Various environmental groups, various political officials, communities & schools
Oregon Hatchery Research Center, other watershed councils, Cascade Pacific RCD
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, private landowners – and more!

Monthly meetings are the third Thursday of the month at various locations through out the Alsea Basin. Come join us for educational and informational presentations, as well as help with any land use challenge you may have. If we can't help, we will direct you to the appropriate party. All are welcome

Alsea Watershed Council

5rivers@pioneer.net

541-528-3390

<http://dev.alseawatershedcouncil.org>

Andrew Kittel, Chair, 541-961-6461 Linda Johnston Sec/Treas, 541-582-3390

(map of basin on reverse side)