

## **Project Update**

### **Sodom and Shearer Dam Removal Projects**

*Prepared by: Denise Hoffert-Hay, Project Manager, [hofferthay@peak.org](mailto:hofferthay@peak.org), (541) 619-5896*  
*Prepared for: Calapooia Watershed Council May Newsletter*

The project to remove Sodom and Shearer Dams and provide channel restoration is on schedule for implementation Summer 2011. The project's hydraulic modeling report and final design documents are available to download from the Council's webpage at:  
<http://www.calapooia.org/projects/sodom-dam-fish-passage-improvement-and-flow-management/preferred-alternative-design/>

#### **Permitting**

The project's permitting is inching forward. We have received the DSL permit, but are waiting on our FERC approval, USACE permit, and Linn County floodplain permit. Each of these has several components and most are satisfied. The details of what has been approved and what is pending include:

##### *Permit Updates:*

- USACE and DSL permit application submitted mid-December 2010. Still awaiting permit issuance. Pending DEQ 401 certification. Approval expected in May 2011.
- Submittal of License Surrender Application (LSA) to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Submitted August 2010 – awaiting approval from FERC. Expected by early May 2011.
- Archaeology field investigation and report. Submittal to US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) mid-December 2010. Approved in late March 2011.
- Hydraulic modeling for Letter of No-Rise Certification, for submission to Linn County Planning Department. Submitted to Linn County early March 2011. County requested additional information. Re-submitted to Linn County April 2011. Approval expected in May 2011.
- Sediment Evaluation Framework report completed. Submittal to US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) mid-November 2010. SEF clearance received in January 2011.
- Biological Assessment to comply with ESA consultation. Submittal to NOAA Restoration Center in mid-December. NOAA's Restoration Center issued the BiOp in February 2011.

#### **Upcoming Meetings and Tours**

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department has contracted with River Design Group to develop a set of alternatives for managing water at the Mills and in the mill pond. OPRD hosted a public meeting to review these alternatives on **April 19, 2011 from 10 am to noon at the Halsey Pioneer Villa.**

The Council has been asked to participate in a tour for the Oregon Water Resources Department's Commission on May 12<sup>th</sup>. The tour will include stops at the Mills, Sodom Dam and the Bifurcation. It is an opportunity for the Council to share the story on this project with an audience that does not typically visit our watershed.

#### **Construction Update**

The Council is working with River Design Group to prepare a bid package that will be sent out to the construction firms who have contacted the Council and expressed an interest in bidding on the project. Additionally, the project will be advertised on the Council's webpage. RDG has several contacts with local (within 25 miles of the watershed) contractors with the skills to implement the project that will receive notice of the project. The Council's Management Committee will discuss whether to advertise the project even more broadly. Bid pack will be available late May/early June.

Construction access for Shearer and Sodom is being discussed with the affected landowners. Several private landowners are impacted by the construction activity and will need to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Council and construction firm prior to on-the-ground activities. All MOUs will be in place by late May.

For restoration of the Sodom Channel, the Council is working with local nurseries (Native Grounds and Seven Oaks) to grow out willow cuttings. We are working to contract with an expert on planting planning to assist us with developing the vegetation restoration plan on the Sodom Channel for the area directly affected by the project's construction of the engineered riffles.

NO additional public meetings are planned for the project. Please contact me with any questions or concerns,

Denise Hoffert-Hay,  
Project Manager  
Phone (541) 619-5896  
Email: [hofferthay@peak.org](mailto:hofferthay@peak.org)