

# 2013-2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Jim Stafford Chair Director

Sterling Grant Vice Chair Director 21 Years



Wayne DeMoray Treasurer Director 27 Years

Wayne Hoffman Secretary At-Large Director 5 Years



Rennie Ferris Director 15 Years

Mark Saelens At-Large Director 4 Years



Ryan Gassner Director



Jay Robinson Associate Director

Terrie Grant
Associate
Director
5 Years



# DISTRICT PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION

Alsea Watershed Council Alsea Stewardship Group Benton Soil and Water Conservation District Bio-Surveys, LLC Bureau of Land Management Cascade Pacific RC&D City of Lincoln City City of Newport City of Toledo City of Yachats Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians Dahl Disposal Inc. Devils Lake Water Improvement District Eddyville Charter High School Hatfield Marine Science Center Lincoln County Commissioners Lincoln County Public Works Lincoln County Solid Waste Marys River Watershed Council MidCoast Watersheds Council Mid Coast Cooperative Weed Management Area Plum Creek Foundation Oregon Association of Conservation Districts Oregon Coast Aquarium OR Conservation Employees Association Network Oregon Department of Agriculture Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Oregon Department of Human Services Oregon Department of State Lands Oregon League of Conservation Voters **OSU** Extension OSU Sea Grant Oregon State Parks and Recreation Oregon State Weed Board

Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council
Siletz Charitable Community Foundation
Siletz Watershed Council
Siuslaw Soil and Water Conservation District
Siuslaw Watershed Council
Starker Forest Incorporated
Surfrider Foundation
USDA—Natural Resources Conservation Service
USFS—Siuslaw National Forest
Wetlands Conservancy

Western Invasives Network

Yaquina Watershed Council

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

# 2013-2014 DISTRICT STAFF



Tanya Graham District Manager 16 Years



Josh Lambert
Watershed
Technical
Specialist
6 Years



Aaron Duzik Invasive Species Program Manager 4 Years



Mark Stone Bio Surveyor 19 Years



Christopher Wood Bio Surveyor 18 Years



Abigail DeYoung Administrative Assistant 2 years



Una Monaghan Water Quality Tech 9 Months

\$25,942.00

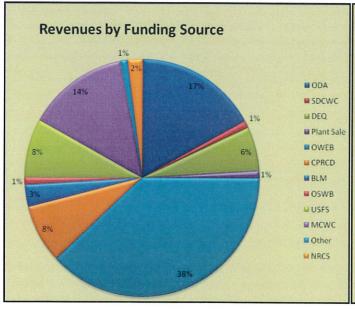
## 2013-2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

#### **All Funds**

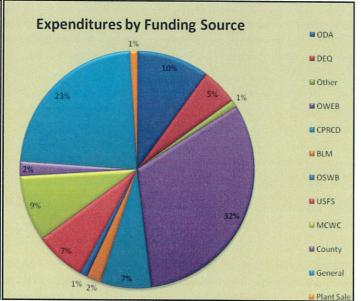
# Statement of Revenues and Expenditures As of June 30, 2014

Revenues:		Expenditures:	
Grant Income	\$368,252.00	Personal Services	\$278,143.00
Administrative Receipts	\$27,213.00	Material and Supplies	\$73,330.00
Rent Proceeds	\$16,391.00	Administration Expenses	\$27,213.00
Contract Income	\$61,152.00	Office Rent	\$31,898.00
Plant Sale Income	\$3,953.00	Contract Services	\$31,786.00
Other Receipts	\$360.00	Utilities and Telephone	\$4,904.00
		Travel and Conferences	\$26.930.00
		Office Expenses	\$12,023.00
		Interest Expenses	\$599.00
Total Revenues	\$477,321.00	Total Expenditures	\$486,826.00

\$35,447.00



Fund Balance as of 7-1-13



Fund Balance as of 6-30-14

ODA—Oregon Department of Agriculture
SDCWC—Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council
DEQ—Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
OWEB—Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
CPRCD—Cascade Pacific Resource Cons Development
BLM—Bureau of Land Management

USFS—United States Forest Service
MCWC—MidCoast Watersheds Council
ODFW—Oregon Dept of Fish and Wildlife
COUNTY— Lincoln County
NRCS—Natural Resources Conservation Service

OSWB—Oregon State Weed Board

Lincoln SWCD was established by statute under the administrative oversight of the Natural Resources Division of the Department of Agriculture. The District is a subdivision of state government. The District is exempt from Oregon state budget laws because it is organized under ORS chapter 568 as a soil and water conservation district that does not levy an ad valorem tax. The Board of Directors prepares a cash basis budget for managerial purposes. The District is a municipal corporation exempt from federal and state income taxes.

\*An outside accounting firm performs an official audit review of all District funds. The final approved audit report is available at the Lincoln SWCD Office.

# WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

The Water Quality Program provides landowners with a local source of technical and financial assistance for implementing the best approaches to protecting water and soil resources on farm, rural, and urban areas while maintaining productive lands.

# Agricultural Water Quality —Technical Assistance

Between July 2013 and June 2014, Lincoln SWCD's Watershed Technical Specialist provided 35 separate landowners with technical recommendations, conservation plan and project development, funding acquisition



Riparian areas planted along pasture (Yaquina Watershed) for future shade and woody debris inputs to the aquatic system

(grants), and project implementation management for farm and ranch related water quality and natural resource problems. Lincoln SWCD's Specialist completed 39 on-site visits related to technical assistance, project design and management, and monitoring of 10 agricultural water quality projects throughout Lincoln County. These projects resulted in 470 feet of riparian exclusion fencing for livestock, 0.2 acres of livestock heavy use protection, 2 spring



Developed spring provides alternative offstream water source for livestock on a Siletz Ranch

and trough developments to provide off-stream livestock water, 8.1 acres of trees and shrubs planted along 2.8 miles of riparian zone, I 2,300 square foot manure storage facility, I 5,000 gallon liquid waste (dairy) storage facility, and I impaired livestock culvert crossing replacement on a pasture. These best management practices applied on private farms and ranches throughout Lincoln County help to protect water quality in our local watersheds and conserve soil resources on our productive lands and along sensitive wetland and aquatic habitat.

Lincoln SWCD
Watershed Technical Specialist
could not have
completed these
projects without
the support and
hard work from
our participating
landowners and



2,300 square foot manure storage facility on a horse ranch near Lincoln City is a result of a project between Lincoln SWCD and landowner. It provides 500 cubic yards storage during rainy months.

agricultural operators, the technical support from the Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the financial support from Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Agriculture and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board.

# **Urban Water Quality — Outreach and Events**

Lincoln SWCD's Watershed Technical Specialist organizes and implements multiple education and resource events, often of special interest to urban residents. These events promote various types of conservation and

# WATER QUALITY PROGRAM CONT.

inform citizens about global challenges that can be addressed locally. The Native Plant Sale (winter) and Environmental Film Series (spring) are examples of annually held events that have become well established and well attended for many years now. 2013 was the first year of our summer pre-sale order option. This allows residents the option to order a wider variety of plants in the quantities they prefer. And receive them at the same time as the two Native Plant Sale event in the Fall. Lincoln SWCD's annual spring film series also made a change in 2014. The official name switch from "Water Film Series" to "Environmental Film Series" reflected a broadening of film types offered this year including topics such as ocean trash, overfishing, water shortages, and the importance of protecting soil resources. Guest speakers, well attended films, and an engaged local audience made for a great film series.

## <u>Urban Water Quality — Technical Assistance</u>

One topic we often promote is low impact development in urban areas. A major tenet of low impact development includes reducing water use (conservation) and reducing the impact of urban storm water to local streams and beaches from impermeable surfaces, like roofs, by finding ways to enhance infiltration of rainwater before it reaches the storm water system. A simple way is to capture rainwater from a roof and store it

The Newport First Presbyterian Church's 12th St Plant A Row community garden irrigates with rainwater through a new water delivery system located throughout the garden.

for residential uses which reduces a residents use of municipal water. This saves money and reduces energy costs associated with using municipal tap water (it takes a lot of energy to treat and pump city water to your tap).

In 2014, Lincoln SWCD completed a 2 year project in Newport that pro-

vides a demonstration of this concept on a larger scale. We assisted First Presbyterian Church with the design, funding and implementation of a 10,000 gallon rainwater storage facility. This facility was designed to capture and provide an alternate source of irrigation water other than city tap water for the Church's "12th St Plant A Row" community garden. This garden is managed in partnership with Newport Food Pantry (on Church property) and provides fresh produce for community members and for the Newport Food Pantry, which provides food for food insecure families. The system includes a pressurized (pump) delivery system

and hose spigots located throughout the garden.

This project received financial support funds from Lincoln County Commissioner's Economic Development Grant, an Oregon Community Foundation grant, Lincoln SWCD support, plus technical and motivational support from former NRCS employee Jim Dunlap. Church and Newport Pantry staff were very supportive and engaged throughout the entire project as well.

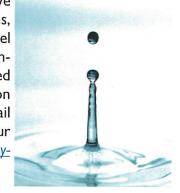


Two 5,000 gallon rainwater collection cisterns and a pump house collect rain water from the Pantry and church roof and delivers it to the garden.

# WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM

Our landowner outreach efforts strive to provide current and applicable information as well as the rationale underlying best practices geared to protect and improve water quality along streams and rivers. Some of this information includes data collected by Lincoln SWCD via our Water Quality Monitoring Program. On a monthly basis, Lincoln SWCD collects and locally analyses water samples from 23 locations throughout the Siletz, Yaquina, Big Elk, Beaver Cr, Alsea and Five Rivers watersheds. The goal is to measure and compare over time baseline water quality parameters like turbidity, pH, water temperature, dissolved oxygen and evidence of harmful bacteria (E. coli) whose values along many Lincoln County streams do not meet safe levels for aquatic organisms, human exposure and aquaculture (oysters). Often water quality impairments result from certain land-use practices that if implemented in a different way could easily prevent further degrada-

tion to water quality. The causes of these sources can be difficult to pinpoint, so we call them nonpoint source pollution. Urban pollution runoff into storm systems, failing septic systems, upland and stream bank soil erosion, unmaintained gravel roads, or inappropriate agricultural practices are common human causes of nonpoint pollution in Lincoln County. Knowing where water quality is highly impacted allows local conservation partners to focus outreach/educational and restoration efforts. If you are interested in learning more about your local water quality, email <code>josh@lincolnswcd.org</code> and request the monthly water quality listserv email or find our data on our recently updated website at <code>www.lincolnswcd.org/water-quality-monitoring.html</code>



### HABITAT RESTORATION PROGRAM

Lincoln SWCD partners with landowners, watershed councils and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) on multiple projects annually whose primary goals are restoring functional habitat within streams and upland areas for use by fish and wildlife. 2014 saw the completion of the Flynn Creek Stream and Elk Meadow habitat project. This effort involved ODFW project managers, Plum Creek Timber (project property), Community Services Consortium (natural resource conservation work crews), and the Oregon Hunters Association. This project included the installation of 9 in-stream large wood structures for enhancing fish habitat, 2 acres of riparian tree planting, and over 10 acres of meadow restoration for elk use.



Elk meadow in the background, large wood placement in Flynn Creek and conifers planted in cages on both sides of the creek.

2014 also included planning for another Lincoln SWCD partnership with Mid Coast Watersheds Council to manage a multilandowner, restoration project in the Five Rivers watershed, a sub-basin of the Alsea River to begin summer 2014.

On-the-ground conservation and restoration projects directly support and restore resiliency of the watershed services such as clean water, productive soil, and healthy habitats for fish, wildlife, insects and hu-

Report submitted by: Josh Lambert

# AN AVERAGE WORK DAY.....



# INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL PROGRAM CONT.

#### **Program Goals**

The Invasive Species Control Program (ISCP) coordinates available State and Federal resources to address the highest priorities of newly introduced invasive plants including planning to address future introductions. This program develops and carries out control plans, monitors Lincoln County natural resources and provides education and outreach materials for Lincoln County residents. The ISCP works with many partners throughout Lincoln County, the State of Oregon, and abroad to facilitate prevention and successful control of invasive species across many private and public landowners. The ISCP is quickly becoming a county leader in vegetation control for environmentally sensitive areas, although the ISCP provides assistance for any invasive plant species, the program is particularly skilled in responsible control practices for riparian and wetland invasive plants.

### **Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR)**

Early detection and prevention are central tenets of the ISCP's integrated weed management approach. The ISCP works to provide education and outreach to Lincoln County landowners and partners about high priority invasive plants and to carry out early detection (survey and inventory) and rapid response (control and removal) of newly introduced or highly controllable populations of invasive plant species. The ISCP is currently the central contact center for invasive species reporting in Lincoln County. In 2013, the program responded to many early detection reports of invasive weeds and in each case the ISCP was either able to treat the infestation, provide technical assistance, or document the infestation for incorporation in a future project. An updated list of targeted weed species and species of concern can be found at the district's website: www.lincolnswcd.org or for a map of the distribution of invasive species throughout Oregon, you can visit: www.weedmapper.oregon.gov

## **Current Projects:**

## Policeman's Helmet (Impatiens glandulifera)

Policeman's helmet is an annual flower that has started to displace native vegetation along the rivers of Lincoln County. It's large stature and dense growth outcompetes shorter stature species resulting in direct competition and reduction of native vegetation.

2014 was the second year the ISCP mounted a large scale control effort for policeman's helmet, working predominantly in the Five Rivers and Alsea Basins. The project covered over 25 miles of river while treating and surveying for policeman's helmet. By the end of the field season we had treated 5.7 net acres of infested area which were located mostly within 200 feet from the rivers' edge.



Policeman's Helmet is an annual that can easily be controlled by hand pulling or mowing



Policeman's Helmet can form dense patches that out compete native riparian plants

### INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL PROGRAM

During the 2014 field season the ISCP also located and removed small patches of policeman's helmet on the Siletz and Yaquina River systems as well. In 2015 Lincoln SWCD will launch a County wide control program to help control this species in all major river basins.

#### Knotweed Control Project (Fallopia & Polygonum spp.)

The ISCP has carried out a comprehensive, county-wide knotweed control project since 2009. This project is aimed at controlling, reducing and preventing further spread of highly invasive, nonnative knotweeds throughout the entire county. Knotweeds are perennial shrubs native to Asia that were once a popular ornamental. However, when introduced to wild areas, knotweeds have the capacity to invade and replace our riparian areas with monocultures of unproductive habitat. Due to their large rhizomatous root (i.e. lack of fine root structure) and since they die back during the winter months, knotweeds do not provide as much stream bank stability as native plants and sometimes can increase erosion.

Successful knotweed treatment is reliant upon treating all infestations along a river system since untreated infestations will continue to spread downstream. Increased landowner and local partner support for our program has increased our program's capacity and success. Our hardworking seasonal crews are the backbone of this long term project and our 2013 crew was no exception. Using aquatic labeled foliar spray we treated knotweed along the Salmon, Siletz, Yaquina, Alsea, Beaver and Yachats River Basins. Our work in 2013 resulted in the treatment of 1.1 acres of highly dispersed (334 sites) knotweed in our effort to protect and enhance over 190 river and stream miles within Lincoln County.

#### 2013 Treatment Results (Japanese, Giant & Himalayan Knotweed)

Number of Sites Treated	334 Sites
Total Area of Knotweed Treated	I.I Acres (47,192 ft <sup>2</sup> )



Despite our best efforts, the ISCP continues to find large patches of knotweed tucked away in the corners of Lincoln County.

## INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL PROGRAM OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

# Yellow flag iris (Iris pseudacorus)

The ISCP started yellow flag iris (YFI) control efforts at Beaver Creek Natural Area in 2014. With the help of Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, about 1/3 an acre of YFI was dead headed in the spring and then chemically treated in the fall. Efforts to control YFI will continue in 2015, with basin wide treatments in the spring on Beaver Creek and select areas in North Lincoln County.



Crew member Una Monahan cuts and bags the flowers of yellow flag iris in Beaver Creek Natural Area.

# INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL PROGRAM OUTREACH AND EDUCATION











The ISCP can answer questions about a particular plant (including identification), control methods, and whatever else you can think of about invasive weed species. Questions pertaining to invasive species, requests for a color brochure on specific high priority species that we are currently focusing on (above), or information about our annual Weed Watcher training, please contact ISCP Program Manager Aaron Duzik aaron@lincolnswcd.org or at 541-265-2631. То report an invasive species www.oregoninvasiveshotline.org. Please check the Lincoln SWCD's website, www.lincolnswcd.org for photos and details of the many projects that the ISCP is carrying out, which includes a comprehensive list of high priority invasive species for Lincoln County.

Report Submitted by: Aaron Duzik

### MIDCOAST MONITORING PROGRAM

The District's MidCoast monitoring program (MCMP) has been ongoing for the past 15 years. It is a multi-faceted program consisting of three different phases spanning the entire year. These separate phases consist of Aquatic Habitat Inventories (AQI) conducted from June thru August. Adult Spawning Surveys consisting of early component Chinook Spawning float surveys from September to mid October. Coho and Fall Chinook spawning ground surveys from late October to the end of January, and Steelhead/Lamprey Eel surveys from February to the end of May. In addition to surveys, the program also offers Public Outreach and Educational outreach.

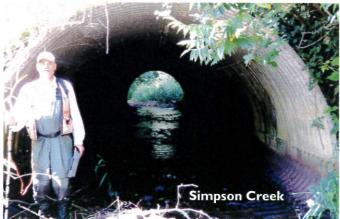
# AQUATIC HABITAT INVENTORIES

Aquatic Habitat Inventories (AQI) surveys provide baseline data for long-term monitoring of projects and effectiveness monitoring of projects by documenting pre and post project habitat conditions. Sites for AQI were chosen in a cooperative effort with the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW) and the Mid-Coast Watersheds Council (MCWC). Selected inventory sites were in locations that have proposed or completed restoration activities. In addition to collecting AQI data, District staff digitize and collate the data in preparation for analysis by ODFW staff at the Aquatic Inventory Project headquarters in Corvallis. Both raw data and analyzed data are available at the Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) office and from ODFW where it is included in the ODFW database of the statewide Aquatic Inventory Project. AQI data is also entered into a Geographic Information System (GIS) database. Digitized copies of the raw data are filed with ODFW and are at the Lincoln SWCD office.

This year District staff conducted AQI work in two Basins. One was the Yaquina Basin, and the other was the Siletz Basin. In the Yaquina Basin, Simpson Creek was inventoried to document the outcome of a large wood placement project that had been implemented in 2007.

In the Siletz Basin, Bentilla Creek and Euchre Creek were inventoried. Bentilla Creek's last known inventory was conducted in 1992 and Euchre Creek was conducted in 1993. The work was completed at the request of the MCWC as well as the local ODFW District. These partners wanted to know more about habitat condition, accessibility, and limiting factors for anadromous fish in anticipation of in-stream improvement projects that may need to be developed. Euchre Creek is an active Steelhead stream and also is the location of the Siletz Tribal ceremonial fishing site directly located at the falls.





Aquatic Habitat Surveys — Total miles inventoried = 9.85 Miles Siletz Basin:

Yaquina Basin:

Simpson Creek

2.85 Miles

Bentilla Creek Euchre Creek 4.5 Miles 2.5 Miles

# SPAWNING GROUND SURVEYS

#### **Early Component Chinook Float Surveys**

The Early Component Chinook Surveys on the Alsea and Siletz Rivers start in the last week of August. In the Alsea River, District staff floated four different reaches that total approximately 20 miles. And in the Siletz River, staff covered three reaches totaling approximately 20 miles. These surveys are done every seven to ten days.

The Siletz survey is in cooperation with ODFW's Coastal Chinook Research and Monitoring Project. The aim of this project is to establish run size and population trends for Siletz Chinook in regards to the US-Canada fishery treaty negotiations.

Chinook surveys continue until the last week of October. At this time District staff switch over to Coho surveys and ODFW crews take over the Siletz drifts.

While surveying the Siletz, District staff coordinates with ODFW assisting with their Mark and Recapture Chinook Project. District staff also coordinates with the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians assisting with their DNA collection of tissue samples from lower river Chinook.

During the 2013 surveys, it would appear as though the Chinook counts are above average on the Siletz and Alsea Rivers.



Mark taking a scale sample

Kip surveying from the canoe



Coho, Chum Salmon & Fall Chinook Surveys

Coho Spawn Surveys are next, starting at the end of October and lasting until the end of January. These surveys are ODFW Random (computer generated), Supplemental (surveys done on special request) and Standard surveys (surveys that have been done on the same stream reach for many years). These surveys are generated by the Oregon Adult Salmonid Inventory and Sampling Project (OASIS) in Corvallis, Oregon. These are walking surveys and usually are about one mile long. Any Fall Chinook that are encountered during these surveys are also counted. Scale samples and length measurements are taken on every fourth dead Coho that is found.

Chum Salmon are surveyed on Bear Creek in the Siletz Basin. This survey starts in late October and continues until about the first week of December. The 2013 Chum run survey in Bear Creek was even better than the 2012 survey (which had the second highest count in 14 years of surveying). During the 2013 survey, approximately 225 fish were counted.

In 2013 District staff conducted Coho surveys on 20 survey sites totaling about 16 miles. These were in the Yaquina, Siletz, Alsea, Yachats and Beaver Creek basins. Coho abundance in the Mid Coast area was 39,723.

# SPAWNING GROUND SURVEYS CONT.

### Coho, Chum Salmon & Fall Chinook Surveys Cont.

Coast wide there were 107,947 fish counted for the estimated Coho abundance for the Oregon Coast ESU. This survey season started out with very low water levels and it appeared that the counts were going to be extremely low. But towards the end of the season, the water levels rose considerably. Even though the counts were below average for the season, they were much better than originally predicted. The results of 2013 Fall Chinook surveys in the Siletz River was an estimated escapement of 7,364 adult spawners. Populations of Chinook in the Alsea River came in at 24,157 with Chinook escapements for the Yaquina at 4,958.

#### **Steelhead Spawning Surveys**

The District staff started steelhead surveys at the beginning of February and surveyed until the end of May. The surveys were conducted every 10 to 14 days. With these surveys a redd (a fishes nest) count is more important than the actual number of fish observed. Steelhead do not die after spawning and tend to leave the spawning grounds shortly after spawning has occurred. As a result not many Steelhead are seen during the course of the spawning season. In order to get a population estimate, redd counts are used in determining the number of adult steelhead. To prevent counting a redd twice, a brightly colored rock is placed in the observed redd and left there until the redd is completely healed in and no longer visible. The rock is then removed from the healed redd.

This year District staff surveyed 18 stream reaches covering 23.7 miles in 6 different basins. Of these, 16 were standard Steelhead surveys and 2 were Random. The number of Steelhead redds observed in the Mid-Coast Basin during this season was 9012. This was the second lowest count since 2003. The average count for the MidCoast Basin is 15,000.

#### **Public Outreach**

Before conducting any surveys, an extensive search is performed to contact and obtain permission from any landowners whose land District staff might cross during the completion of a survey. These permission request contacts offer an opportunity for staff to engage landowners in discussions about salmon habitat issues. This type of interaction can often lead to future habitat enhancement opportunities.

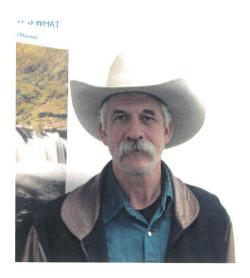


### 2013 SERVICE AWARD

# STERLING GRANT Vice-Chair



## **THANK YOU**



During Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District's 59<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, the Board and staff presented Josh Lambert with the Employee of the Year Award.

In the spring of 2012 Josh accepted the Watershed Technical Specialist position with the District and since then he has worked tirelessly on multiple watershed enhancement projects, the water quality monitoring program and landowner/partner relations. Josh is a very devoted, committed and strong employee.

Josh, the staff and Directors would like to thank you for your dedicated service and innovative ideas. We all look forward to continuing working with you in the years to come!

# 2013 EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

# **JOSH LAMBERT**



### **THANKYOU**

During Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District's 59<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, the Board and staff recognized Sterling Grant with the Dedicated Service Award.

Over the years, Sterling has provided innovative ideas as well as diversity. He has been a strong source of support for the staff as well as Lincoln County landowners.

Sterling has been very active with the Lincoln SWCD Board and has served in many capacities. He currently is serving as Vice Chair and has held that position for the past 16 years. Sterling also served as Treasurer in 1998.

THANK YOU STERLING FOR YOUR SERVICE!

23 North Coast Highway Newport, Oregon 97365 (541)265-2631 The Board of Directors meets every second Thursday of the month. These meetings are open to the public and begin at 7:00 PM at the District Office.

Www.lincolnswcd.org Info@lincolnswcd.org Fax: (541)265-9351