

Appendix G
Staff Qualifications

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C. Mirth Walker, Senior Wetland Scientist, B.A., PWS

Responsibilities: Ms. Walker provided project management and quality assurance/quality control review. She assisted with the fieldwork, data analysis, digitizing, and report preparation.

Ms. Walker has over 25 years of experience conducting wetland delineations and functional assessments, and coordinating agency approvals of state and federal wetland permits. Ms. Walker has received training in the USACE Arid West and Western Mountains, Valleys and Coast Regional Supplements, and the Oregon Rapid Wetland Assessment Method. She has been managing and conducting LWIs for over 20 years, and has both a depth and breadth of wetland inventory experience. Inventory areas she has worked on include the cities of Ashland, Hillsboro, Lakeside, La Grande, Tigard, Tualatin, Stayton, and Wilsonville, as well as five cities for the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG): Adair Village, Harrisburg, Mill City, Monroe, and Scio. Ms. Walker understands wetland permitting and regulations, and she works collaboratively with clients, team members, and agency personnel to resolve issues and provide solutions that are easily attainable.

Clare Kenny, Wetlands Scientist, B.S., PWS

Responsibilities: With support from the project team, Ms. Kenny led the fieldwork effort and designed the LWI geospatial database based on OAR. She completed digitization, the OFWAM assessment, and report preparation. Ms. Kenny also led the public open house meetings for the project.

Ms. Kenny has over 11 years of environmental consulting experience in the United States and overseas, including 6 years of specialization and local trainings in wetland and waterbody assessment and botanical surveys. Continuing education workshops have included a number of regional supplement trainings for the USACE wetland manual, the Oregon Rapid Wetland Assessment Protocol, the Washington Wetland Rating System, the Oregon Stream Duration Assessment Method, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and geographic information system (GIS). Ms. Kenny additionally has expertise with habitat mapping, invasive species surveys, threatened and endangered species surveys, restoration monitoring, and associated reporting. She understands wetland reporting and permit application processes and is proficient using ArcGIS for large-scale data collection and analysis.

Taya MacLean, Botanist/Wetlands Scientist, M.S., B.S.

Responsibilities: Taya assisted with fieldwork, wetland data entry, and wetland data quality assurance/quality control review.

Ms. MacLean has over 15 years of experience conducting botanical studies, habitat mapping, and wetland delineations, and plays an integral role on SWCA's wetland and wetland inventory team. In continuing her education to focus upon Pacific Northwest vegetation and wetland communities, Ms. MacLean regularly attends local botanical workshops and trainings on topics ranging from plant identification and management, to vegetation and habitat mapping, to rapid wetland functional assessment tool trainings. Her on-the-ground experience is diverse and includes the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership land cover mapping project and the LCOG Five City LWI. She has conducted vegetation monitoring at vernal pool and wetland mitigation sites for Roseburg Forest Products, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, and a variety of other clients throughout southern Oregon.

Catherine Smith, GIS and Mapping Specialist, B.A.

Responsibilities: Catherine built and maintained the LWI geodatabase, sourced reference data, and prepared base and final report maps for the project.

Ms. Smith is a GIS specialist with 21 years of experience in GIS support for NEPA documents, wetland delineations, and vegetation inventory projects. She uses Esri ArcGIS applications to support and help solve natural resource management and planning issues. Ms. Smith has coordinated the GIS involvement for extensive environmental impact statement and environmental assessment projects, including some for the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Forest Service. She also has experience with aerial photography/satellite imagery interpretation and classification using ERDAS Imagine software.

Chris Moller, GIS and Remote Sensing Specialist, B.S.

Responsibilities: Provided GIS and remote sensing support to the project team.

Mr. Moller has 15 years of technical experience in GIS and remote sensing as well as natural resources areas. His primary areas of expertise are land cover and land use mapping, wetland interpretation, GPS data collection, and associated GIS analysis. His background in the natural sciences allows him to work with landscape ecologists, botanists, fisheries scientists, restoration scientists, wetland scientists, and cultural resources specialists to gather, analyze, and display data. He also contributes to the development of new methods to answer environmental consulting questions and solve problems. Mr. Moller is familiar with current remote sensing techniques, satellite and aerial imagery manipulation, and accuracy assessment methods. He has used several types of satellite and aerial imagery as well as LiDAR data, and is proficient with different imagery analysis software for interpretation of imagery and classification. He is also practiced in current techniques related to land cover and land use classification as well as change detection.

Appendix H

Example Landowner Letter

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CITY OF MEDFORD

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Date of Notice: March 11, 2015

Contact: Carla Paladino

Informational Meeting **Medford Local Wetland Inventory Project for Urban Reserve**

You are receiving this invitation because you own property within the City of Medford's Urban Reserve and preliminary data indicates the possible presence of wetlands on your property.

Wednesday, March 18, 2015
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
(Short Presentation starts at 5:15 p.m.)

Carnegie Building
413 W. Main Street, Top Floor

Scope of Project: The City of Medford is about to conduct a Local Wetland Inventory (LWI) in the Urban Reserve. The City is required by Oregon law (Statewide Planning Goal 5) to identify and assess wetlands in order to update its Comprehensive Plan and meet requirements associated with expanding the City's Urban Growth Boundary. The City is requesting your participation in order to gather the most accurate information possible about the location and quality of wetlands within these areas. From preliminary data, part of your property may have wetland characteristics, contain part of a stream or drainage way, or may be located next to such a feature.

The City has hired SWCA Environmental Consultants, an environmental consulting firm to conduct the Local Wetland Inventory (LWI) and provide the technical expertise for the project. The LWI will provide useful planning information both for property owners and the City.

Why attend? The informational meeting will help explain the LWI project. Staff from the Oregon Department of State Lands (the state agency that sets wetland inventory standards), SWCA Environmental Consultants, and the City will be in attendance. After a brief presentation, staff will be available to answer questions and maps will be on display for the benefit of the audience.

We Need Your Help! The City is requesting your participation in order to gather the most accurate information possible about the location and quality of wetlands within the Medford Urban Reserve. While aerial photography, soil maps, and other information will also be used in this study to locate and map wetlands, for the best accuracy we would like your permission for SWCA to walk on the property and briefly study the vegetation and soils. **The consultant will not come onto your property without your consent. Therefore, we request that you please sign the "Permission to Access" form and mail it back by March 25th.** Otherwise, please bring the signed sheet with you to the informational meeting.

If you consent, the site visit will occur between the end of March through the end of April of this year. It would take place on a weekday and in most cases would not last longer than 30 minutes. When the consultant visits your property, he/she may dig a few small test holes (1 ft. wide by 1.5 ft. deep) to help identify wetland soils. The consultant will fill these holes back in when finished. No gardens or lawns will be disturbed. Although your presence is not necessary, SWCA will be flexible in working with you on any special arrangements that you may require in order to accommodate schedules, pets/animals etcetera.

Who do I contact? Questions can be directed to the contact listed above at 541-774-2380, or by visiting the Planning Department in person. The Planning Department is on the second floor of the Lausmann Annex, 200 S. Ivy Street and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Sincerely,

signed

James E. Huber, AICP, Planning Director
City of Medford

Enclosure: Permission to Access form

Permission to Access

Property Owner Consent Form

I understand that SWCA Environmental Consultants, an environmental consulting firm, has been contracted by the City of Medford to conduct a Local Wetland Inventory (LWI). In order to accurately determine the presence or location of a wetland, staff from SWCA needs to enter onto my property. By signing this form, I grant the consultant permission to access my property for the purposes of this inventory.

Map and Tax Lot(s): _____

Street Address: _____

Print Name: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Should the consultant call first to make any special arrangements for access?

No

Yes Phone: _____ Best time to call _____

Please return this form by March 25th or bring it with you to the informational meeting.

Thank you.