

PROJECT TIME LINE

This project is designed to restore approximately 3,000 acres of wetland habitat. The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) project goals include improved water quality and quantity, and improved habitat for two endangered fish species, as well as other wildlife. The money spent in FY 99 went for final design, construction and monitoring of the second and third phases of project plan implementation.

Phase 1 components:

- a) the construction of 2 miles of dike and associated water control structures,
- b) the creation of two ponds in the northeast corner of the property,
- c) replacement of an existing pump station,
- d) design of a new drainage system to emulate original stream courses across the property,
- e) the reconstruction of 0.5 mile of existing levee.

Ducks Unlimited completed construction of the new pump station in September 1996, expending \$125,000. In July of 1997, Ducks Unlimited completed two miles of dike construction (approximately 65,000 cubic yards of material), installed four new water control structures (full-round risers with screw gates and flash boards, and created two ponds (approximately 20 acres total), worth approximately \$400,000.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service contributed labor and equipment worth approximately \$100,000 to create 6 miles of meandering drainage channels and repair 0.5 mile of existing levee in August of 1997.

Phase 2 components:

- a) reconstruction of a levee for 1.8 miles with 60,000 cubic yards of material across the middle of the project area.
- b) construction of two settling ponds in front of the two pump stations. These ponds will serve as final treatment for water to be pumped from the property.
- c) installation of three water control structures associated with this middle levee and ponds were completed in February 1998.
- d) installation of four water control structures by June 1998.

Phase 3 components:

a) Oregon Trout is the lead partner providing technical and financial support to restore the lower 1.8 miles of the Wood River to its historic form and function, from the confluence of Crooked Creek south to the dike road bridge. Construction of this project began in September of 1997, with the stockpiling of materials and creation of approximately two acres of wetland habitat. Approximately 40% of the construction work was completed in 1998. The remainder of this work was completed in 1999. This phase of the project is designed to improve refugial habitats for the early life stages of endangered suckers, fish passage, and instream habitat for trout, and provide a wider flood plain with improved riparian and wetland habitat for waterfowl and neotropical migrant birds.

Currently, our technical design and planning team is preparing to finish the channel restoration work, including a 3,300 foot section of historic channel south of the dike road bridge. Restoration of this delta stream channel could greatly improve refugial habitat and water quality.

Phase 4

The final phase of the Wood River Wetland restoration project will be to develop a more sinuous and diverse interface along Sevenmile Canal. This would involve a two mile reach of existing levee. This phase of the project will provide improved refugial habitat for larval and juvenile fish, as well as improved nesting and brood-rearing habitat for waterfowl and neotropical migrant birds. Potential partners include Ducks Unlimited, Oregon Trout, Water for Life, Trout Unlimited, and the Bureau of Reclamation.