



## John Day Watershed Restoration Project

Since 1997, the John Day Basin Office (JDBO) has conducted a watershed restoration program in the basin in cooperation with multiple funding and implementing agencies. In addition to serving as the tribal coordination program, the JDBO also serves as the liaison office for the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and coordinates the BOR's activities in the basin as well. Integral to the watershed program is an annual monitoring and evaluation effort, implemented for the purpose of assessing the effectiveness of various agency funded watershed restoration projects. The monitoring program is conducted under an annual monitoring plan(s), which is prepared by the JDBO in cooperation with other basin agencies.

### Project Goal

The overall goal is to continue the research, monitoring, and evaluation program being conducted in the John Day basin by the JDBO of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Four

primary objectives will be implemented, through a combination of tasks, to meet issues that have been identified with the existing monitoring effort and to address emerging issues associated with the program. The objectives are related to three primary areas of interest: 1) assessing resource recovery that has resulted from past restoration activities; 2) evaluating trends in



resource recovery resulting from the ongoing watershed program; and 3) identifying the current condition and trends in resources as a background to other ongoing evaluations.

Since the beginning of the project in 1998 the John Day Basin Office Watershed Restoration Project has completed over 100 restoration projects in the John Day basin. These projects include Irrigation Diversion replacements, Efficiency Conversions, Return Flow Cooling Projects, Riparian Fencing and Planting, Native Plants Nurseries, Juniper Control, Off Channel Water Developments, Effectiveness and ESA



Monitoring as well as Public Relation and Education Programs. The JDBO cooperates with various state and local agencies, including the Grant County Court, USFS, BLM, NRCS and ODFW and has coop agreements with the Grant SWCD and the Wheeler SWCD—these are the construction arms of the program. They also work closely with the Monument SWCD and the North Fork Watershed Council. They have received grants from Oregon Water Trust, OWEB and NRCS WHIP Program.



## **Accomplishments**

Currently, the following construction projects have been completed:

Diversions—34

Pumping Stations—19

Infiltration Galleries—8

Pipelines—2

Return Flow Cooling—7

Junipers 25 sites—2,011 acres

Fencing—5

Planting—12 miles

Water Developments—18

The JDBO is working on 12 instream projects, 500 acres of Juniper Control, 6 miles of riparian planting, 2 fencing projects and 6 water developments. We will be presenting an educational booth at the Grant County Fair for the 4th year and are active sponsors along with BPA of local conservation groups and youth organizations in the area. This year we had a full time Oregon Youth Conservation Corpse group working on the conservation area in Prairie City.

The JDBO has good working relations with 80 percent of the landowners in the basin and hopes to continue to restore habitat for years to come.