The **East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District** (EMSWCD), located in northwestern Oregon, is a non-regulatory government agency that operates east of the Willamette River within Multnomah County. The EMSWCD provides technical, capacity, and financial assistance to landowners, land managers, and other residents to help establish and maintain healthy ecosystems, with a particular focus on soil, water, and natural habitats. This **Annual Brief** highlights the major accomplishments for FY14-15 (July 2014 through June 2015) and the major plans for FY15-16 (July 2015 through June 2016). A detailed annual report for FY14-15 and annual work plan for FY15-16 are available upon request or can be accessed through the EMSWCD website.

### Rural Lands

With goals to improve water quality and native habitat, Rural Lands staff provide technical advice to rural land owners, restore riparian habitats, and eradicate noxious weeds. The focus for landowner consultations in FY14-15 was Johnson Creek. In FY15-16 the focus area will be Beaver Creek. Habitat restoration, via the “StreamCare Program,” will continue to concentrate on Beaver Creek, Johnson Creek, Big/Pounder Creeks, and Smith Creek, while evaluating opportunities in other watersheds. Noxious weed eradication has targeted, and will continue to target, English ivy, false brome, garlic mustard, knotweed, old man’s beard, and spurge laurel.

### Urban Lands

The Urban Lands staff lead workshops, project consultations, demonstration projects and public events, such as native landscaping tours and a native plant sale. New in FY14-15 was the commencement of large-scale, transformative demonstration projects that improve water quality, decrease water use, and improve native habitat.
**Conservation Legacy**

As of July 2015, the Conservation Legacy staff implement the Land Legacy Program, Grants Program, and Headwaters Farm Program. The Land Legacy Program helps protect agricultural, natural resource, and access to nature lands. The Grants Program provides funding to external entities. The Headwaters Farm Program primarily serves as a farm incubator, helping new farmers and farm businesses get established through a four-year program.

**Finance & Operations**

Finance and Operations staff focus on the administrative aspects of the EMSWCD’s work, including board and committee management, budgeting and financial management, contracting, human resources, office management, facilities management, and marketing and media.

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**Accomplishments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accomplishments</th>
<th>Planned Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July ’14 – June ’15</td>
<td>July ’15 – June ’16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helped forward protection of 70 acres of agricultural, natural, and access to nature areas.</td>
<td>Complete 5-year program plans.</td>
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<td>Committed to providing over $2.2M in grants to private organizations, public agencies, businesses and individuals for conservation-related projects.</td>
<td>Evaluate at least three agricultural easements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assisted 13 new farm businesses take root through the Headwaters Incubator Program.</td>
<td>Evaluate at least one natural area and one access area protection opportunity.</td>
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<td>Develop farmer succession program.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Provide grant funding to external entities for conservation projects and events.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Evaluate at least 10 new applicants to become HIP farmers; accept at least 2-3 new farmers.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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**EMSWCD Staff**

**Executive Director:** Jay Udelhoven  
**Finance & Operations:**  
Chief of Finance & Operations: Lissa Adams  
Office Manager: Jed Arnold  
Facilities Manager: Scot Wood  
Marketing & Media Manager: Alex Woolery  
**Rural Lands:**  
Program Supervisor: Julie DiLeone  
Senior Conservationist: Aaron Guffey  
Senior Conservationist: Lucas Nipp  
Senior Conservationist: Vacant  
Conservation Specialist: Chris Aldassy  
Conservation Technician: Jon Wagner  
Outreach Technician: Chelsea White  
**Urban Lands:**  
Program Supervisor: Kathy Shearin  
Senior Conservationist: Erik Carr  
Outreach Specialist: Katie Meckes  
Outreach Specialist (temp): Lea Wilson  
Outreach Technician: Angela Previdelli  
**Conservation Legacy:**  
Program Supervisor: Andrew Brown  
Land Legacy Manager: Rick McMonagle  
Grants Manager: Suzanne Easton  
Headwaters Farm Manager: Rowan Steele