

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**1 INTRODUCTION..... 1**

**2 HISTORICAL CONDITIONS..... 11**

**3 EXISTING DATA AND BASELINE CONDITIONS..... 33**

**4 CHANNEL HABITAT TYPING ..... 57**

**5 HYDROLOGY AND WATER USE..... 67**

**6 RIPARIAN ASSESSMENT ..... 93**

**7 WETLANDS ASSESSMENT ..... 113**

**8 SEDIMENT SOURCES ASSESSMENT..... 123**

**9 CHANNEL MODIFICATION ASSESSMENT ..... 141**

**10 WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT ..... 147**

**11 FISH AND FISH HABITAT ASSESSMENT ..... 169**

**12 SUMMARY OF WATERSHED CONDITIONS, RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESTORATION OPPORTUNITIES..... 197**

**13 ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ..... 209**

**APPENDICES ..... 233**

**APPENDIX A – Key To MAP 3-4, Geology..... 235**

**APPENDIX B – Key to Soils (Winema NF and Crater Lake NP) ..... 239**

**APPENDIX C – ODFW Benchmarks..... 245**

# LIST OF TABLES

*Table 1-1. General Characteristics of the Upper Williamson River Subbasin and 5th-Field Watersheds. .... 4*

*Table 3-1. Summary of Ownership ..... 37*

*Table 3-2. Summary of Water Features ..... 40*

*Table 3-3. Key Streams by Watershed ..... 41*

*Table 3-4. Station Information for Climate Stations in the Vicinity of the Upper Williamson River Subbasin ..... 44*

*Table 3-5. Mean Annual Precipitation (inches) in the Upper Williamson River Subbasin ..... 45*

*Table 3-6. Summary – Species of Concern ..... 52*

*Table 4-1. General Stream Type Descriptions ..... 57*

*Table 5-1. Gages and Flow Measurement Sites in the Upper Williamson River Subbasin ..... 68*

*Table 6-1. Land Use and Riparian Functions ..... 107*

*Table 8-1. Screening for Sediment Sources in the Upper Williamson River Subbasin ..... 125*

*Table 8-2. Road Length and Density in the Upper Williamson River Subbasin ..... 128*

*Table 8-3. Number of Key Stream Road Crossings in the Upper Williamson River Subbasin ..... 129*

*Table 8-4. Distribution of Slope Classes in the Upper Williamson River Subbasin ..... 129*

*Table 8-5. Upper Williamson River – 1996 USGS Sediment Transport Data ..... 134*

*Table 10-1. Wineama NF Water Temperature Monitoring Station Information ..... 148*

*Table 10-2. Designated Beneficial Uses for the Upper Klamath Lake Basin, Particular to the Upper Williamson River Subbasin ..... 148*

*Table 10-3. General and Basin Specific Water Quality Criteria and Standards ..... 149*

*Table 10-4. 1998 303(d) Listing Information for Project Reaches of Williamson River ..... 151*

*Table 10-5 DEQ Environmental Cleanup Site Information (ECSI) Database Search Results ..... 165*

*Table 11-1. Streams/Waterbodies Mapped as Containing Fish ..... 170*

*Table 11-2. Documented Fish Species Within the Upper Williamson River Basin ..... 171*

*Table 11-3. Comparison of ODFW Survey Data (ODFW 1999) for Evening Creek with ODFW Benchmarks ..... 178*

*Table 11-4 Comparison of ODFW Survey Data (ODFW 1999) for Miller Creek with ODFW Benchmarks ..... 179*

*Table 11-5. Comparison of ODFW Survey Data (ODFW 1999) for Jackson Creek with ODFW Benchmarks ..... 182*

*Table 11-6: Potential Fish Passage Barriers Caused by Road Crossings (Key Streams Only) ..... 189*

*Table 11-7. Number of Road Crossings of Key Streams Including Those Reviewed by Winema National Forest ..... 190*

*Table 12-1. USFWS-ERO Restoration in the Upper Williamson River Subbasin ..... 201*

## LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

<i>Photo 2-1. Klamath Indian Camp (1902)</i> .....	13
<i>Photo 2-2. Wocus Harvest</i> .....	14
<i>Photo 3-1. Williamson River at Kirk Reef, April 2004</i> .....	39
<i>Photo 3-2. Williamson River at Kirk Reef, June 2004</i> .....	39
<i>Photo 8-1. View of Diversion and Unstable, Eroding Banks on Jackson Creek</i> .....	130
<i>Photo 8-2. Gully along Steep Section of Road that Contributes Directly to Stream Channel</i> .....	131
<i>Photo 8-3. View of Stable River Channel at Yamsi Ranch</i> .....	131
<i>Photo 8-4. View of Typical Bank Erosion between Deep Creek and Rocky Ford</i> .....	132
<i>Photo 8-5. View of Incised Channel and Outside Bend Bank Erosion Downstream of Rocky Ford</i> .....	132
<i>Photo 8-6. View of Williamson River Channel at Silver Lake Highway</i> .....	133
<i>Photo 8-7. Channelized Section of Williamson River in the Klamath Marsh</i> .....	133
<i>Photo 8-8. View of Upper Williamson River at Rocky Ford</i> .....	137
<i>Photo 10-1. Photo of Tannin-Stained Water Flowing from Klamath Marsh, Taken at Kirk Bridge Crossing of Williamson River</i> .....	163
<i>Photo 11-1. Upper Reach of Sand Creek</i> .....	179
<i>Photo 11-2. Road 2304 Crossing of Sand Creek</i> .....	180
<i>Photo 11-3. Lower Reach of Sand Creek</i> .....	181
<i>Photo 11-4. Middle Reach of Jackson Creek</i> .....	183
<i>Photo 11-5. Middle Reach of Jack Creek</i> .....	184
<i>Photo 11-6. Exclosure Area on Williamson River Mainstem Showing Reestablished Vegetation</i> .....	185
<i>Photo 11-7. Klamath Marsh Refuge Rock Island Diversion Structure</i> .....	187
<i>Photo 11-8. Klamath Marsh Refuge Deep Water Area near Former Kittredge Canal Pumping Station</i> ....	188
<i>Photo 11-9. Klamath Marsh Refuge at Silver Lake Road</i> .....	188

# LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1-1. Location of the Upper Williamson River Subbasin..... 3

Figure 1-2. Cumulative Watershed Area by Slope Class..... 5

Figure 3-1. Summary of Land Cover Within the Upper Williamson Assessment Area..... 38

Figure 3-2. Composite Annual Precipitation Record for Oregon Climate Zone 5 (top graph), and Cumulative Standardized Departure from Normal Of Annual Precipitation for Oregon Climate Zone 5 (bottom graph)..... 47

Figure 3-3. Mean Minimum (top chart) and Maximum (bottom chart) Daily Temperatures by Month for the Watersheds within the Upper Williamson River Subbasin ..... 49

Figure 3-4. Composite Mean Annual Air Temperature Record for Oregon Climate Zone 5..... 50

Figure 3-5. Mean 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of the Month Snowpack at Three Climate Stations in the Vicinity of the Upper Williamson River Subbasin ..... 51

Figure 3-6. Time Series of March 1<sup>st</sup> Snowpack ..... 51

Figure 4-1. Summary of Rosgen Channel Types in the Upper Williamson River Subbasin ..... 60

Figure 5-1. Monthly Streamflow Statistics for the Williamson River below Sheep Creek..... 69

Figure 5-2. Estimated Median Monthly Discharge for Big Springs Creek ..... 70

Figure 5-3. Monthly Streamflow Statistics for the Cottonwood Creek Gage ..... 71

Figure 5-4. Monthly Streamflow Statistics for the Miller Creek Gage..... 71

Figure 5-5. Monthly Streamflow Statistics for the Sand Creek Gage ..... 72

Figure 5-6. Monthly Streamflow Statistics for the Sink Creek Gage ..... 72

Figure 5-7. Monthly Streamflow Statistics for the Williamson River near Klamath Agency..... 73

Figure 5-8. Recurrence Interval Associated with Annual Peak Flow Events at Four Stream Gages in the Upper Klamath Basin..... 74

Figure 5-9. Instream Water Rights by Date at Two Locations Within the Upper Williamson River Subbasin..... 77

Figure 5-10. Summary of Instantaneous Withdrawal Rates Within the Upper Williamson Assessment Area on August 1 ..... 78

Figure 5-11. Summary of Reservoir Storage Within the Upper Williamson River Subbasin ..... 78

Figure 5-12. Estimated Net Effect of Water Withdrawals on Monthly Stream Flows on the Williamson River at Kirk Reef (Gage #5 on Map 5-1) and at Rocky Ford (Gage # 14 on Map 5-1) ..... 81

Figure 5-13. Generalized Diagram of the Primary Interactions Between Land Uses and Changes in Peak, Annual, and Low Stream Flows ..... 82

Figure 6-1. Schematic Block Diagram of Upstream of Klamath Marsh and Coyote Creek Watersheds ..... 99

Figure 6-2. Representative Watershed Stream Profile (Mosquito Creek Example) ..... 102

Figure 7-1. Types and Prevalence of Wetlands in the Watersheds ..... 114

Figure 8-1. Williamson River Below Sheep Creek – 1996 USGS Sediment Transport Data ..... 135

Figure 10-1. Temperature Graph for Sand Creek (West of Klamath Marsh 5<sup>th</sup>-Field)..... 153

Figure 10-2. Temperature Graph for Miller Creek (Northwest of Klamath Marsh 5<sup>th</sup>-Field)..... 153

Figure 10-3. Temperature Graph for Jack Creek (Klamath Marsh/Jack Creek 5<sup>th</sup>-Field)..... 154

Figure 10-4. Temperature Graph for Jackson Creek (Williamson River Upstream of Klamath Marsh 5<sup>th</sup>-Field)..... 154

Figure 10-5. Temperature Graph for Deep Creek (Williamson River Upstream of Klamath Marsh 5<sup>th</sup>-Field)..... 155

Figure 10-6. Temperature Graph for Williamson River at Head of Williamson Spring.....	156
Figure 10-7. Temperature Graph for Williamson River Downstream of Sand Creek Ranch .....	157
Figure 10-8. Temperature Graph for Williamson River at Rocky Ford .....	157
Figure 10-9. Temperature Graph for Williamson River at Williamson River Ditch.....	158
Figure 10-10. True Color and FLIR Imagery of Wickiup Spring Area Showing Cooling Effect on River Temperatures, River Miles 80.65 to 80.41 .....	159
Figure 10-11. True Color and FLIR Imagery of River Miles 80.65 to 80.41, Showing Water Diversion Effect on River Heating .....	160
Figure 10-12. Williamson River Profile Modeled Maximum Daily Temperatures Under Current Conditions and Under Two Restorative Action Scenarios.....	161

## LIST OF MAPS

Note: All maps follow the text of the section of which they are a part – e.g., Map 2-1 follows the text of Section 2.

Map 1-1. Upper Klamath Basin Proposed Individual Assessment Units .....	10
Map 1-2. Upper Williamson River Subbasin.....	10
Map 2-1. Historic Conditions .....	32
Map 2-2. Overlay of 1892 GLO Map with USGS Quad Map at Military Crossing and Where Williamson River Enters Upper Klamath Marsh .....	32
Map 2-3. Overlay of 1892 GLO Map with USGS Quad Map at Big Springs Creek and Existing Data and Baseline Conditions .....	32
Map 3-1. Ownership.....	55
Map 3-2. Land Cover / Land Use .....	55
Map 3-3. Ecoregions .....	55
Map 3-4. Geology.....	55
Map 3-5. Soils .....	55
Map 3-6. Climate Stations and Annual Precipitation .....	55
Map 4-1. Rosgen Level I Channel Types .....	65
Map 5-1. Stream Gages and Miscellaneous Streamflow Collection Sites.....	91
Map 5-2. Points of Diversion for Water Rights and Locations of Irrigated Areas.....	91
Map 6-1. Williamson River Riparian Vegetation.....	112
Map 6-2. Deep Creek and Mainstem Riparian Shading.....	112
Map 6-3. Stream Shading: Jackson and Miller Creeks .....	112
Map 7-1. National Wetlands Inventory: Wetland Types .....	121
Map 8-1. Riparian Roads .....	139
Map 8-2. Stream Crossings .....	139
Map 10-1. Water Quality .....	168
Map 11-1. Fish Distribution .....	195
Map 11-2. Potential Fish Migration Barriers.....	195