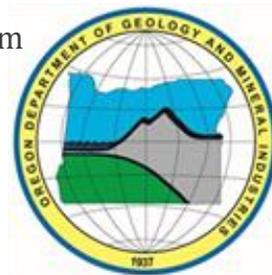


# ENGAGe

Summer 2019



*Exploration, Non-aggregate, Gas/oil, Aggregate, Geothermal*

## ENGAGe Feature: Storm Water Events – Spring 2019

April's high-water event may have caught some Willamette floodplain sand and gravel mine operators by surprise. There are ~60 permitted floodplain sites and only the most recently permitted sites have permit conditions specific to the risks of pit dewatering and fish passage. Native fish that become entrapped in mine pits are likely to perish due to predation and/or inhospitable summer water temperatures.

Floodplain mine operators that conduct pit dewatering are at an increased risk of erosion and pit avulsion from over topping flood events. At least one mine site had a dewatered pit that was inundated by the April high water. The water flowing into the pit caused a head cut that eroded soil and overburden from the adjacent agricultural field (See Picture). That material was deposited on clean gravel deposits that were otherwise ready to be mined this spring.



### How do high water events affect me (the operator)?

- If you have fish egress facilities - review operational plans with staff to ensure your site is managed so that fish can get out of any floodplain pits that get inundated during high water events.
- If you don't have fish passage facilities - consider incorporating fish passage facilities into your site planning to reduce your liability.
- If you dewater - some but not all sites that conduct pit dewatering have seasonal restrictions, via permit conditions, limiting pit dewatering from November to April to reduce the overall risk of a flood event inundating a dewatered pit. Review your permit conditions and minimize dewatering at your site.

*Please contact Vaughn Balzer, DOGAMI Floodplain Reclamationist at (541) 967-2082 or [vaughn.balzer@oregon.gov](mailto:vaughn.balzer@oregon.gov) with any questions or concerns regarding floodplain sites or flood events. Contact Stormwater Reclamationist Lisa Reinhart at (541) 967-2051 or [lisa.reinhart@oregon.gov](mailto:lisa.reinhart@oregon.gov) for questions regarding your DOGAMI administered Water Quality permit.*

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**<https://www.oregongeology.org/mlrr>**

**Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries**

**Mineral Land Regulation & Reclamation**

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## MLR AWARDS:

Each year MLRR presents awards for outstanding reclamation, mine operation, and fish habitat enhancement. Reclamation Awards for 2018, were presented at the Oregon Concrete and Aggregate Producers Association (OCAPA) annual convention at Eagle Crest Resort on June 20, 2019. The reclamation awards are the state's recognition and thank you to those in the mining industry with a strong commitment to the community and environment.

*The 2018 Mined Land Reclamation Award winners are:*

- Good Neighbor Award -- RiverBend Materials a CRH Company, West Salem Quarry, Polk County.
- Oregon Plan Award -- BCI Contracting, Confluence Project, Lane County.

RiverBend Materials was selected for the Good Neighbor Award for their behind the scenes efforts to maintain clean streets in the West Salem area, whether it is their responsibility or not. After being notified of complaints of track out on West Salem city streets, RiverBend responded and addressed the problem even though it was not their trucks responsible for the mud and rock.



BCI Contracting is a family owned business specializing in estuary construction, engineered log jams, stream and river restoration, and fish passage enhancement. BCI was selected for the Oregon Plan Award for their innovative approach and commitment to restore channel stability and complexity while enhancing fish and wildlife habitat along a 3-mile reach of the Middle Fork of the Willamette River at the confluence with the Coast Fork Willamette River.

## SECURITY REMINDER:

If the institution holding your reclamation security (bank, insurance company, etc.) sends you a notice of change (whether it's to the name of institution, or to address, etc.) please let us know! We are not often notified of these changes, but like to be aware incase we need to get in touch with the institution to prevent any unauthorized changes in the reclamation security.



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