



Ochoco Irrigation District Infrastructure Modernization Project

Public Comment Meeting: September 16, 2020



Meeting Agenda

Part 1

Welcome
&
Technology

Part 2

Watershed Planning
&
Project Overview

Part 3

Question
&
Answer Session



Part 1

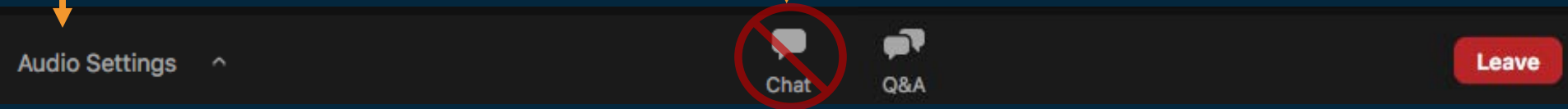
Welcome & Technology



Using Zoom Webinar

Microphones are muted

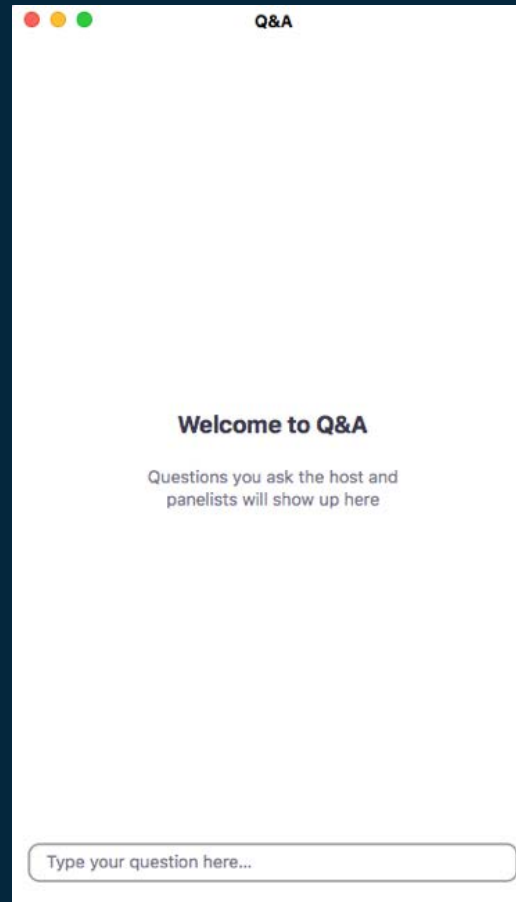
Chat box is disabled



Webinar is being recorded

Recording available afterward at
oregonwatershedplans.org

Using Zoom Webinar



- Submit questions at any time during the presentation
- Questions will be answered after the presentation by our panelists
- Formal comments can be submitted for the record via email, website, mail, or phone – more on that later

Use Q&A button
to submit a
question

Q&A box should
appear



Chat



Q&A

Leave

District
Welcome



Part 2

Watershed Planning & Project Overview



Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (PL 83-566)

Managed and funded by

US Department of Agriculture

- Natural Resources Conservation Service
(NRCS)

To qualify, irrigation districts must have

- 1) match funding
- 2) authorized Final Watershed Plan-
Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA)



Watershed Planning Process

Step 1:
Project Proposal Initiation



Scoping Meeting

Step 2:
Scoping Period



Step 3:
Prepare DRAFT
Watershed Plan- Environmental Assessment



Public Meeting

Step 4:
Public Comment Period



Step 5:
FINAL
Watershed Plan-Environmental Assessment



Step 6:
Project Implementation and Construction



What a Plan-EA Includes

- Purpose & need for the project
- Proposed Action
- Proposed Action alternatives
- Proposed Action effects
- Minimization & mitigation measures
- Economic analysis



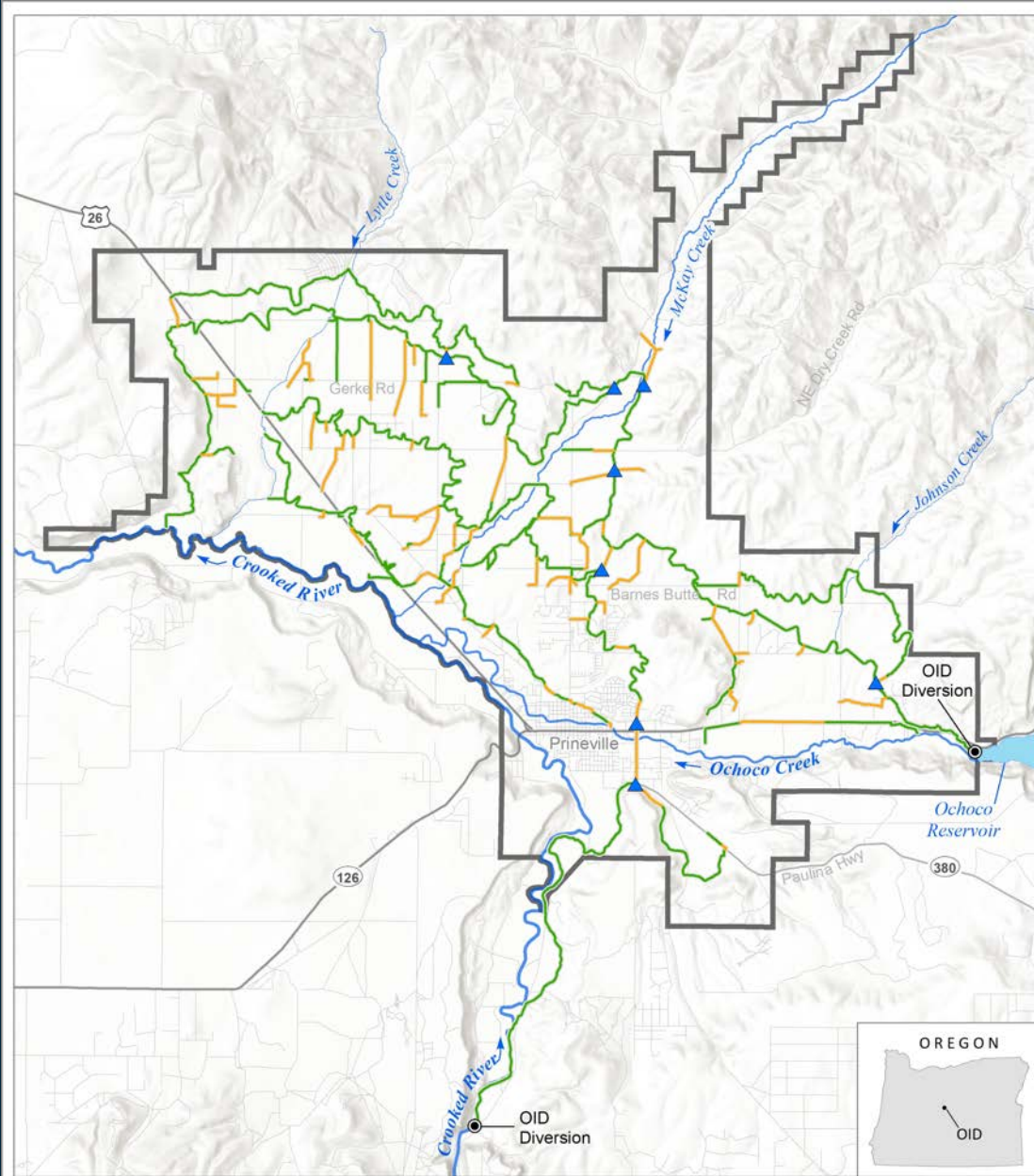
How the Plan-EA is Organized

1. Introduction
2. Purpose and Need
3. Scope of the Plan-EA
4. Affected Environment
5. Alternatives
6. Environmental Consequences
7. Consultation, Coordination, and Public Participation
8. Preferred Alternative
- 9-13. Other Required Sections
14. Appendix



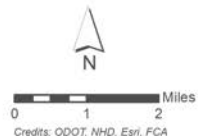
Ochoco Irrigation District Overview

- **20,062** acres irrigated
- **898** irrigators served
- Irrigation season **April-Oct**
- Up to **80,000** acre-feet water diverted/ year
- **120-mile** system
- **8** pump stations lift and carry water to canals and laterals



Ochoco Irrigation District

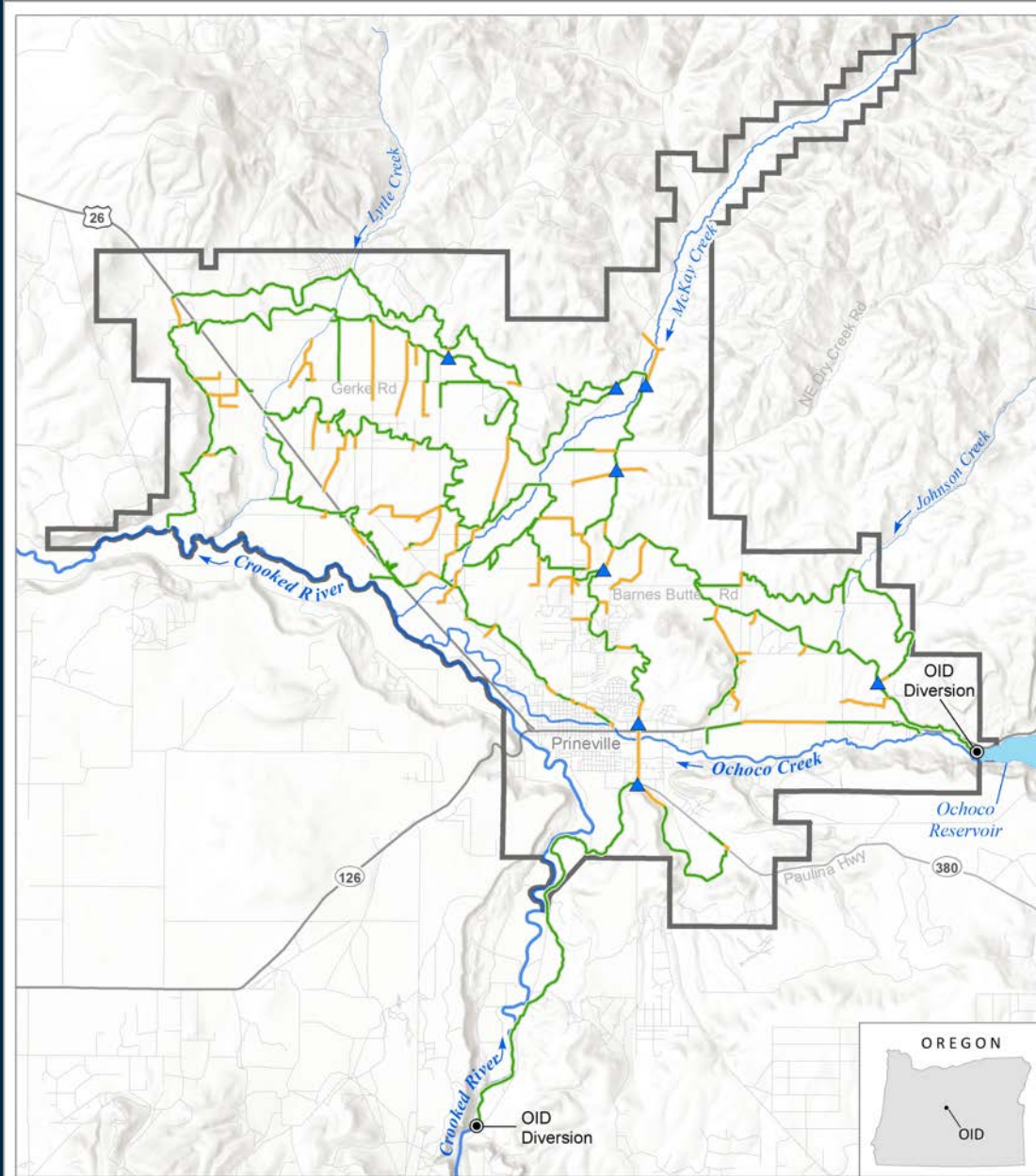
- ▲ Existing Pump
- Diversion
- Existing Open Canal
- Existing Pipeline
- ▣ Ochoco Irrigation District



Ochoco Irrigation District Overview

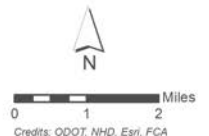
Resource Concerns

- Water delivery and operation inefficiencies
- Water loss in District infrastructure
- Public safety risks
- Diminished instream flows that limit fish and aquatic habitat



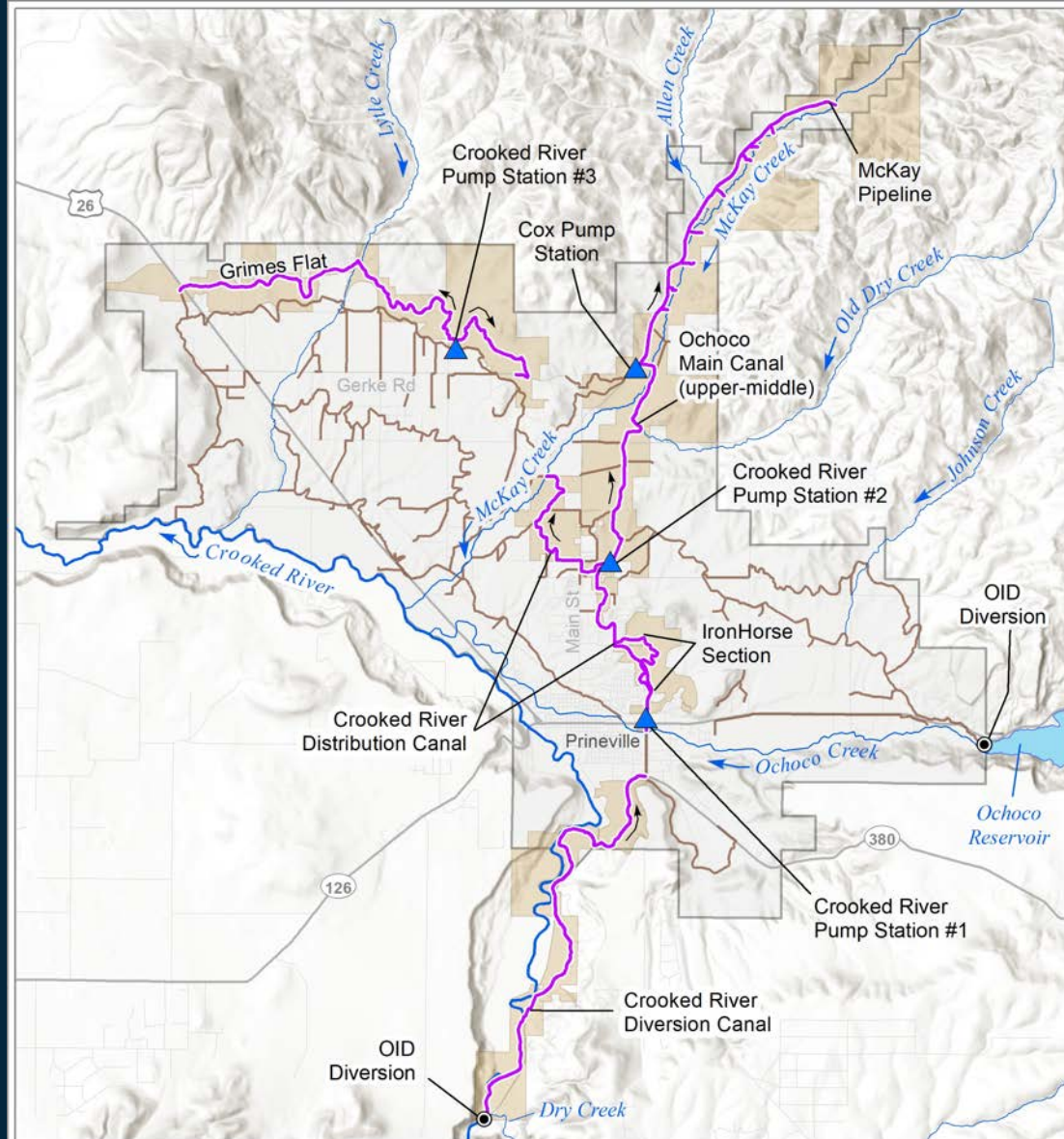
Ochoco Irrigation District

- ▲ Existing Pump
- Diversion
- Existing Open Canal
- Existing Pipeline
- Ochoco Irrigation District



Project Purpose and Need

- Improve District infrastructure to convey and pump water to McKay Creek irrigators
- Improve water delivery reliability
- Conserve water along District-operated laterals
- Improve public safety along District-operated laterals



Ochoco Irrigation District

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| ● | Diversion | ▲ | Proposed Pumping Station |
| → | Direction of water delivery | ■ | Planning Watershed Area |
| ~ | Project Area | □ | Ochoco Irrigation District |
| — | Excluded from Project Area | | |



0 1 2 Miles

Source: FCA, NHD, ODOT, Esri
OID EA Project Area.mxd 8/17/2020

Alternatives

No Action Alternative

Future without Federal Investment

Continuation of the District's standard operations and maintenance

Modernization Alternative

Future with Federal Investment

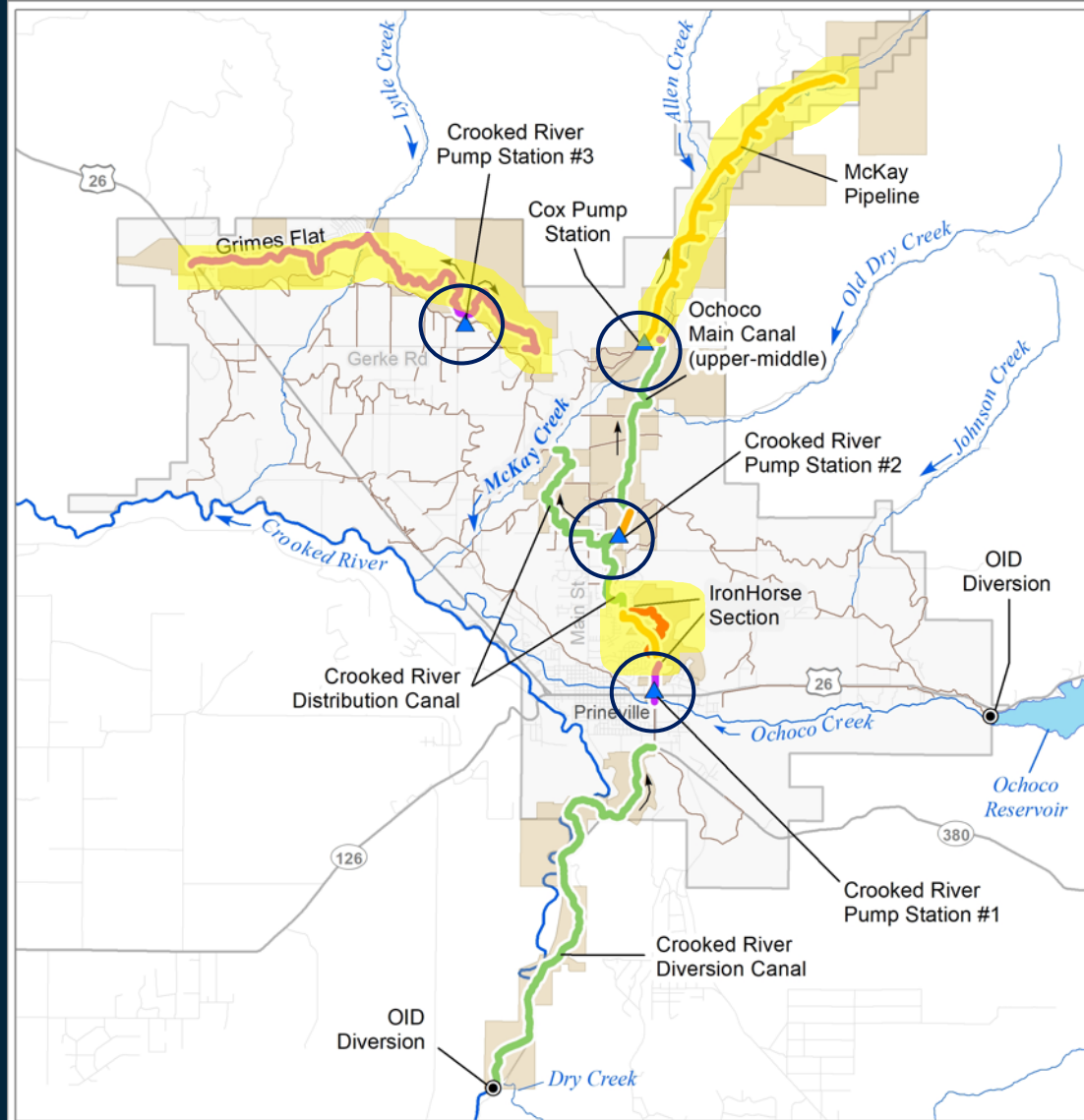
Proposed Action Infrastructure Improvements

- Pipe portions of the District's conveyance infrastructure
- Install new pipe for McKay irrigators
- Upgrade associated turnouts
- Install new pump stations
- Modify District infrastructure to accommodate additional water for McKay irrigators

Modernization Alternative

Infrastructure Improvements

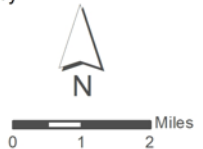
- Install **16 miles** buried pipe
 - McKay Pipeline (6.6 mi)
 - Grimes Flat (8.2 mi)
 - IronHorse section (1.2 mi)
- Install **4** new pump stations
- Raise banks along **15.2 miles** of open canal where necessary
- Improve District infrastructure associated with increased conveyance



Ochocho Irrigation District

- Existing canal - to be improved
- Existing infrastructure - to be piped
- Proposed infrastructure - to be piped
- Infrastructure to be decommissioned

- Proposed Pumping Station
- Direction of water delivery
- Planning Watershed Area
- Ochocho Irrigation District
- Excluded from Proposed Action



Source: FCA, NHD, ODOT
OID EA Piping Alt.mxd 9/9/2020

Modernization Alternative

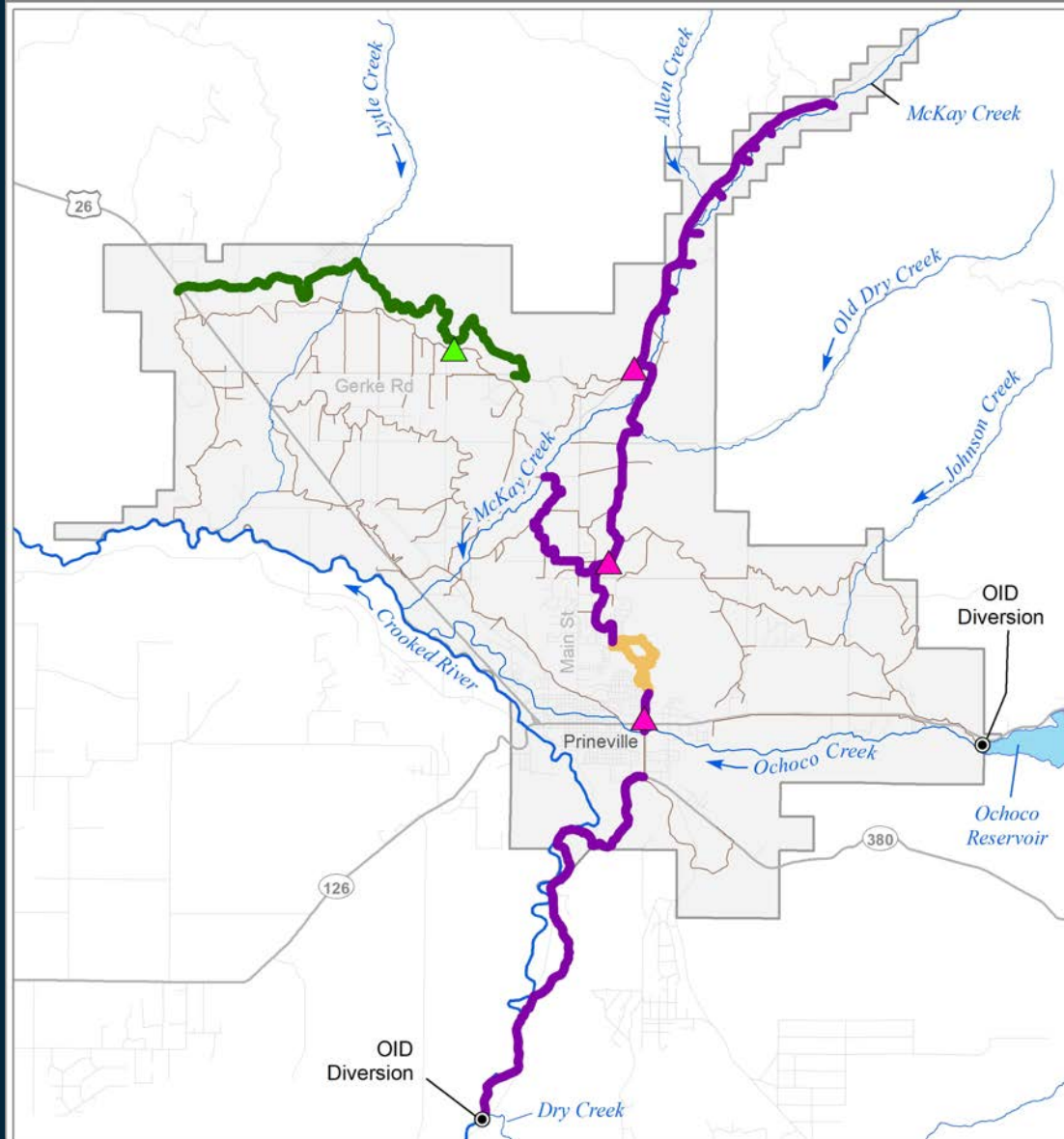
Project Groups and Cost

- Total years/cost
3 years/ \$30,788,000
- Anticipated Construction Timeline

Project Group	Year
1	2021-2023
2	2023-2024
3	2022-2023

- Project Costs

Project Group	PL-566 (\$)	District match (\$)
1	\$10,454,000	\$3,525,000
2	\$8,507,000	\$2,836,000
3	\$4,100,000	\$1,366,000



This map compiled by FCA as a visualization tool and not intended for legal purposes. FCA is not liable for damages caused by omissions or errors in data displayed herein.

What This Project Would Achieve

- Improved water delivery reliability
- Reduced public safety risk
- Improved water conservation
 - Save **5.9 cfs** or **2,513 acre-feet** from piping open canals
- Water protected instream
 - Conserve **4.8 cfs** or **2,046 acre-feet** in the Crooked River
 - Transfer **11.2 cfs** McKay Creek water rights instream



Photo: Bend Bulletin

Plan-EA Resource Analysis

Fish and Aquatic Resources

Soils

Vegetation

Water Resources

Wetlands and Riparian Areas

Wildlife Resources

Cultural Resources

Land Use

Public Safety

Socioeconomic Resources

Visual Resources

We Would Like Your Comments

- Your input helps NRCS make informed decisions
- Comments must be specific to OLD's project
- **Formal comments must be submitted in writing (letter, email, website) or by phone**
- Your comment will be included in the Final Plan-EA



Commenting Suggestions

- Accuracy, methodology, assumptions, information used for analysis
- Errors and omissions
- Range of alternatives included
- NEPA and NRCS requirements



Comment Period Ends **September 30, 2020**

Opportunities to Submit Formal Comment

- Online: oregonwatershedplans.org
- Email: ochoco.id.comments@gmail.com
- Phone: (541) 716-6085
- Mail: Attn: Ochoco Watershed Plan
Farmers Conservation Alliance
102 State St.
Hood River, OR 97031

Part 3

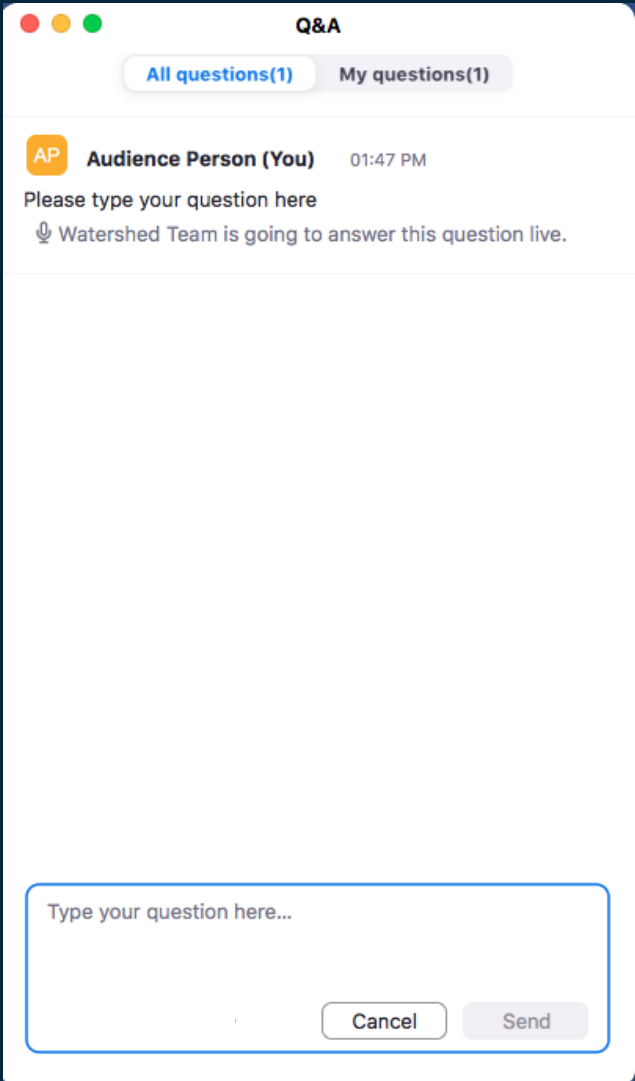
Question & Answer Session



Photo: Crook County Chamber of Commerce



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