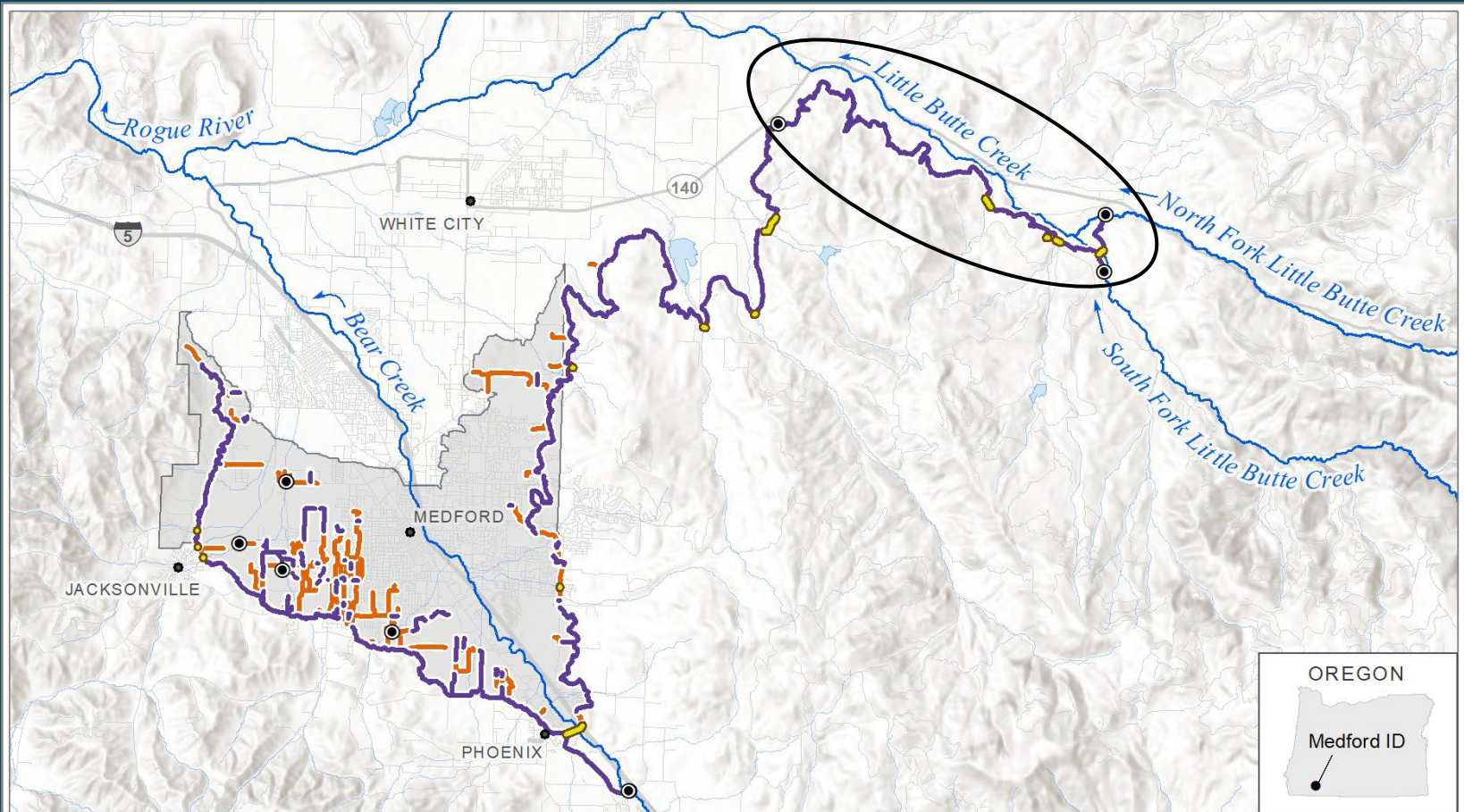









# Medford Irrigation District Joint System Canal Modernization Project

Public Scoping Meetings: August 17, 2023 & August 22, 2023

# Medford Irrigation District



## Medford Irrigation District

-  Open canal
-  Pipe
-  Siphon
-  Diversion
-  District Boundary



Credits: ODOT, NHD, FCA, MID  
MID SD Existing System.mxd 7/26/2023

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

# Joint System Canal

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# Project Purpose and Need

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- Reduce water loss
- Improve water management and delivery
- Reduce risk of failure



# Meeting Agenda

## Part 1

Process  
&  
Project Overview

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## Part 2

Public Comment  
Breakout Session

# Part 1

## Process & Project Overview



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

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Managed and funded by NRCS

To qualify, irrigation districts  
must have

- 1) match funding
- 2) authorized Final Plan-EA or Plan-EIS



# General PL-566 Requirements

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- Must have a project **sponsor**
- Project must fit an **authorized use**
- Must have agricultural or rural community **benefits**
- Congressional approval for projects over **\$25 million**





# Additional Requirements

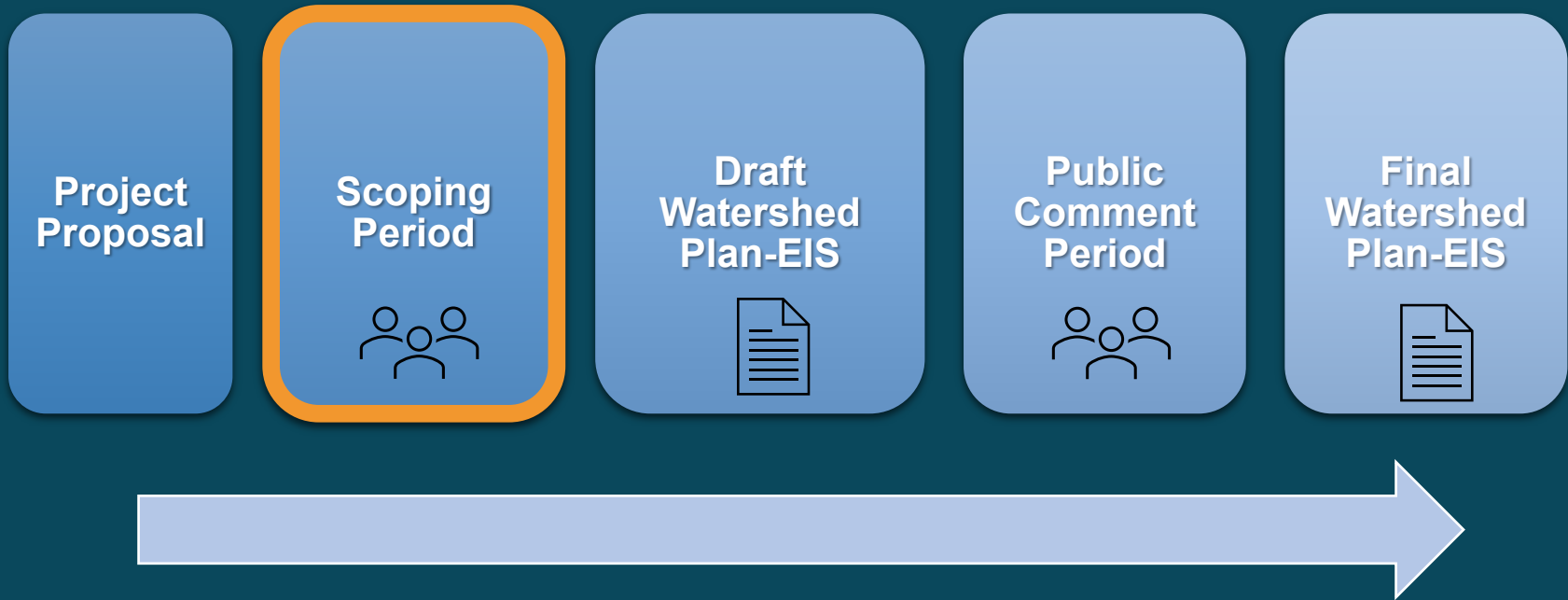
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- Watershed Plans must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (**NEPA**) and
- **Program requirements**, including an economic analysis



# Watershed Planning Process

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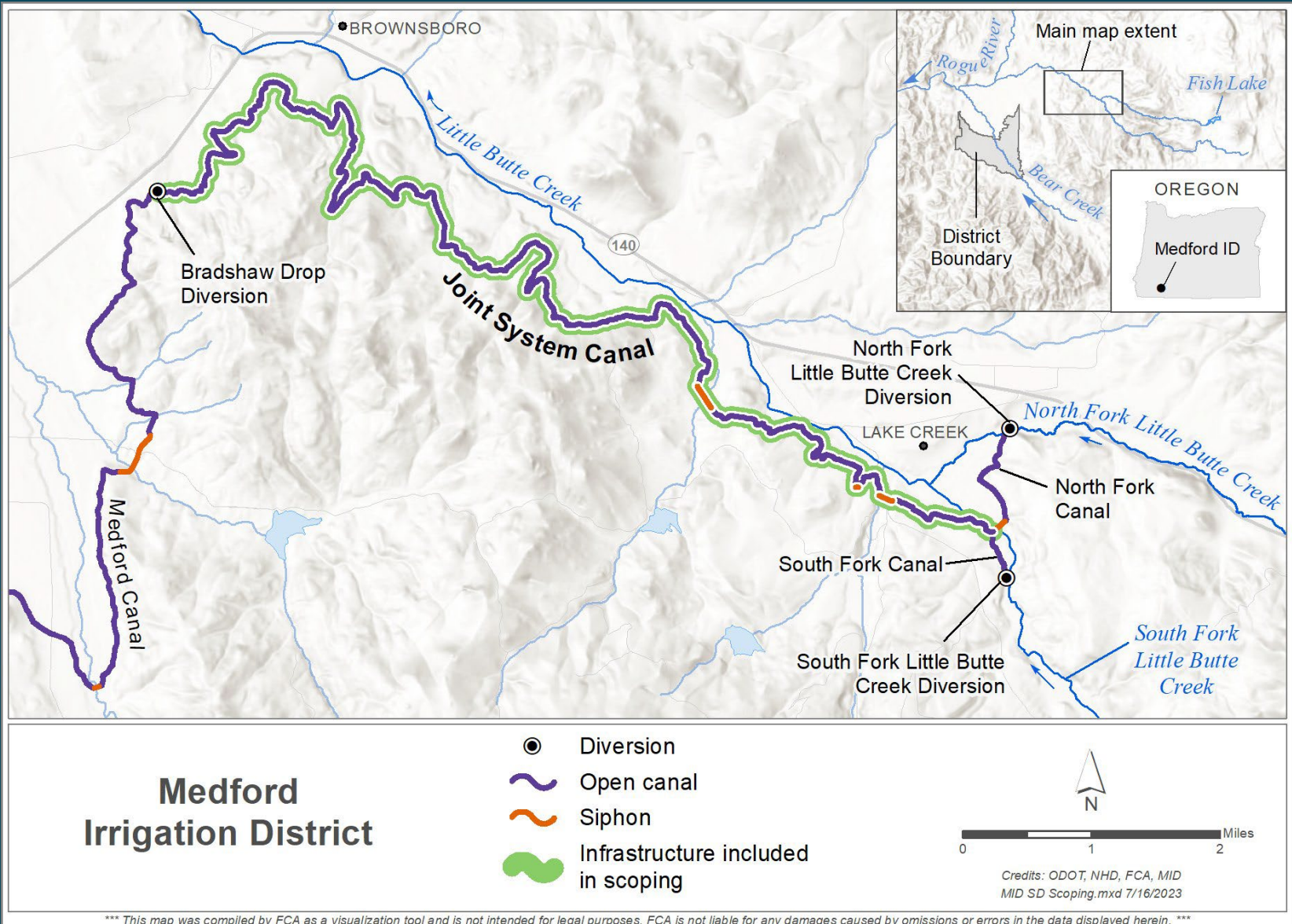
# What a Plan-EIS Includes

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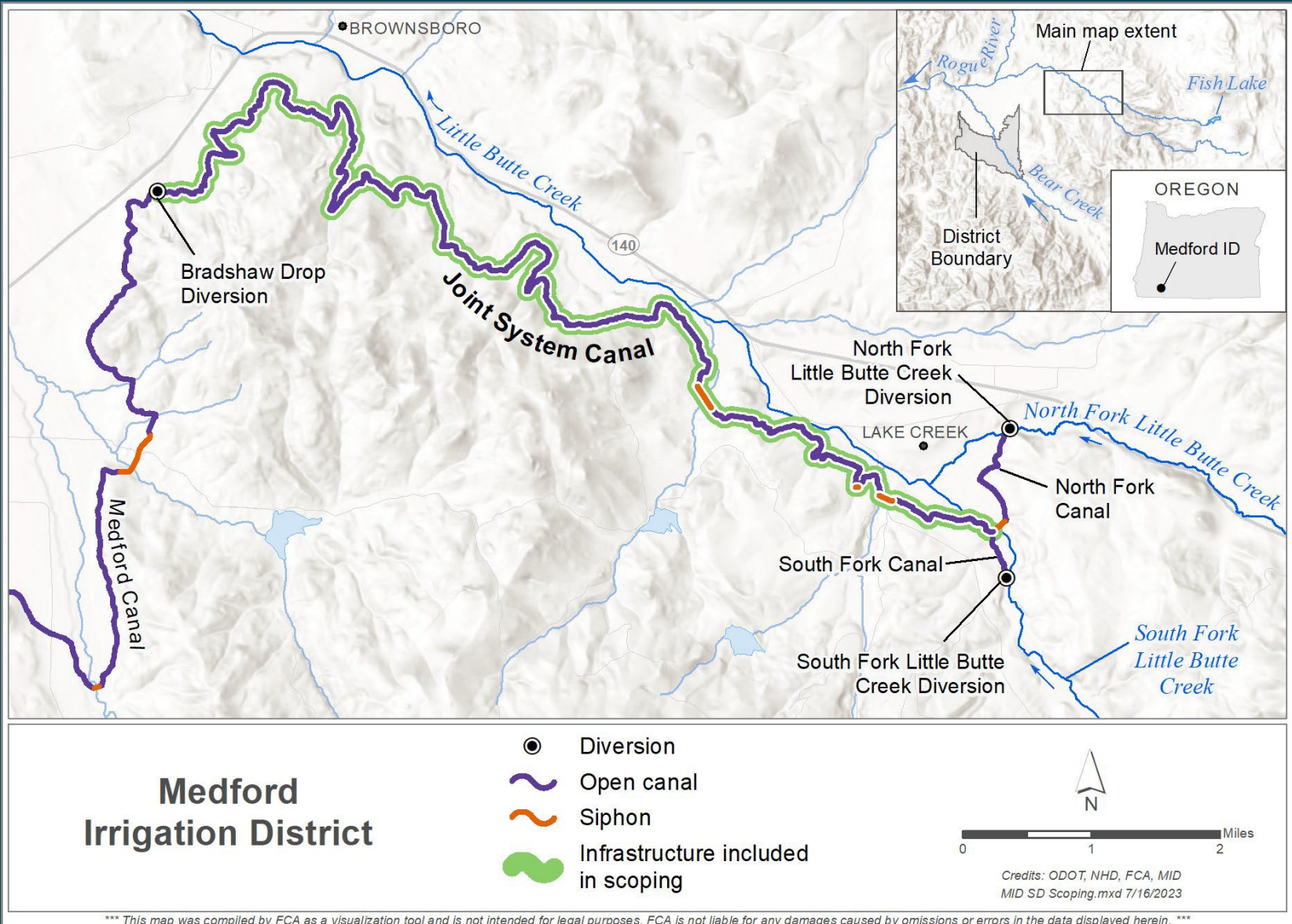
- Purpose & Need
- Proposed Action
- Alternatives
- Affected Resources:  
Examples - Cultural, Fish and Aquatic, Vegetation, Water, Wildlife
- Economic Analysis



# Modernization Alternative 1: Piping



# Modernization Alternative 2: Canal Lining



# No Action Alternative

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- Future without PL-566 funding
- Joint System Canal would not be modernized



# Project Resource Effects to be Analyzed

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- Geology and soils
- Cultural resources
- Vegetation
- Fish and aquatic species
- Wildlife
- Surface water
- Groundwater
- Wetlands, Riparian Areas, Floodplains
- Land use and recreation
- Environmental Justice
- Socioeconomic Resources
- Ecosystem Services
- Economic Benefits and Costs

# Potential Benefits of Modernizing the Joint System Canal

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- **Save** water
- **Improve** irrigation water management and delivery reliability
- **Reduce** risk of canal failure
- **Improve** water quality and aquatic habitat
- **Reduce** operation and maintenance costs



# Part 2

# Public Comment Breakout Session





# Example Comments

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- **Proposed project actions**

*Will I get irrigation water during construction?*

- **Alternatives**

*What about piping the Medford Canal?*

- **Surrounding environment**

*I am concerned about wildlife. Will you study the project effects to wildlife?*

# Opportunities to Submit Comments

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- Submit comments tonight
- Online: [oregonwatershedplans.org](https://oregonwatershedplans.org)
- Email: [Medford.id.comments@gmail.com](mailto:Medford.id.comments@gmail.com)
- Phone: (541) 716-6085
- Mail: MID Scoping  
FCA, 102 State St., Hood River, OR 97031
- Online Meeting August 22

**Scoping Period Ends September 2, 2023**

Thank you for coming



Please bring your comments  
to the tables