



# Owyhee Irrigation District Pub. Law 83-566 Project

Scoping Meeting: September 10, 2025





# Meeting Agenda

## Part 1

PL 83-566 Process &  
Potential Projects  
Overview

## Part 2

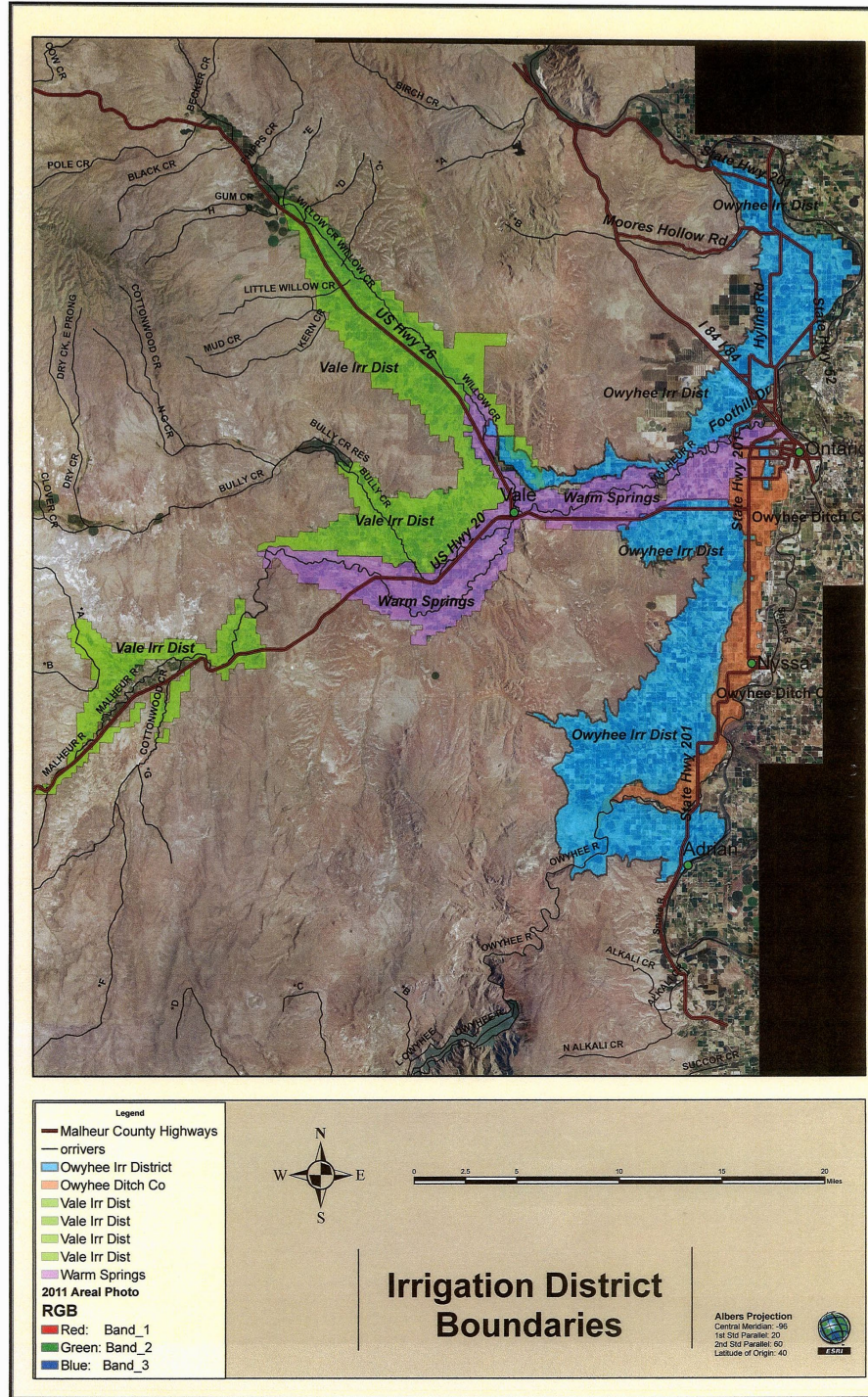
Comment  
Breakout Session





# OID Overview

- Supply irrigation water to over **67,000** acres of land
- **400** miles of canals and laterals
- Canals convey water to **1,012** patrons and **1,364** parcels for agricultural use





Why PL-566?





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

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- Administered and funded by NRCS
- Provides planning, design, and construction funding
- Covers a wide range of watershed issues, which landowners can't solve on their own



# General PL-566 Requirements

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- Must have a project **sponsor** who has the authority to implement the action
- Project must fit an **authorized purpose**
- Must have agricultural or rural community **benefits**





# Additional Requirements

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- Watershed Plans must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (**NEPA**)
- Principles, Requirements and Guidelines (**PR&Gs**), including an economic analysis
- NRCS Nine-Step Planning Process



# Watershed Planning Process

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# What a Plan-EA Includes

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



# Project Purpose and Need

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- Increase irrigation water supply for farms located in the OID service area
- Reduce irrigation water shortages and crop damages





# Potential Alternatives

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## No Action Alternative

### Future without Federal Investment

- Construction activities associated with the project would not occur.
- OID would continue to operate and maintain its existing system in its current condition.

## Proposed Actions

### Future with Federal Investment

- Federal funds would be used for a variety of projects that could include:
  - Piping 74.8 miles of canal
  - Lining 8.5 miles of canal
  - Installing 13 SCADA sites
  - Upgrading 2 headgates

# Plan-EA Resource Analysis

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- Cultural Resources
- Land Use
- Socioeconomic Resources
- Soils
- Vegetation
- Water Resources and Groundwater
- Wetlands and Riparian Areas
- Wildlife Resources

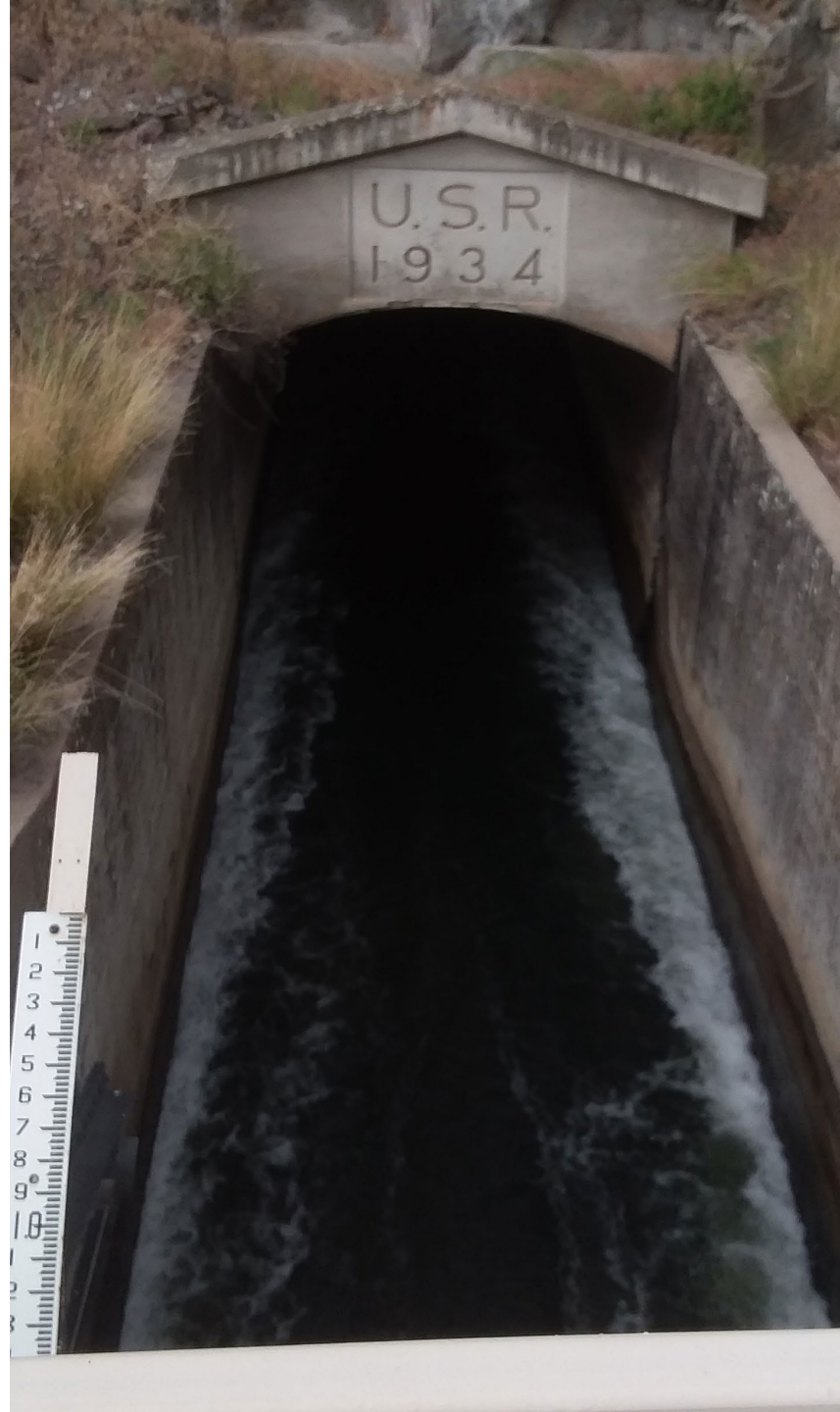




# We Would Like Your Comments

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- Your input helps NRCS make informed decisions
- Your feedback will be included in the Draft Plan-EA



# Commenting Suggestions

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- Comments must be specific to OLD's project
- Resources that should be considered
- Range of alternatives to be included that can be implemented by the sponsor
- NEPA and NRCS requirements





# Comment Period Ends September 25, 2025

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## Opportunities to Submit Formal Comment

- Online: <https://watershedplans.org/owyhee-id>
- Email: [owyheeid.comments@fcasolutions.org](mailto:owyheeid.comments@fcasolutions.org)
- Phone: (541) 716-6085
- Mail:  
Farmers Conservation Alliance  
102 State Street, Hood River, OR 97031

