



Image by Austin Smith, Bear Boot Productions

East Fork Irrigation District Infrastructure Modernization Project

Public Comment Meeting: January 29th, 2020



Meeting Agenda

Part 1:

Project Overview

Part 2:

Public Comment
Breakout Session



Image by Austin Smith, Bear Boot Productions



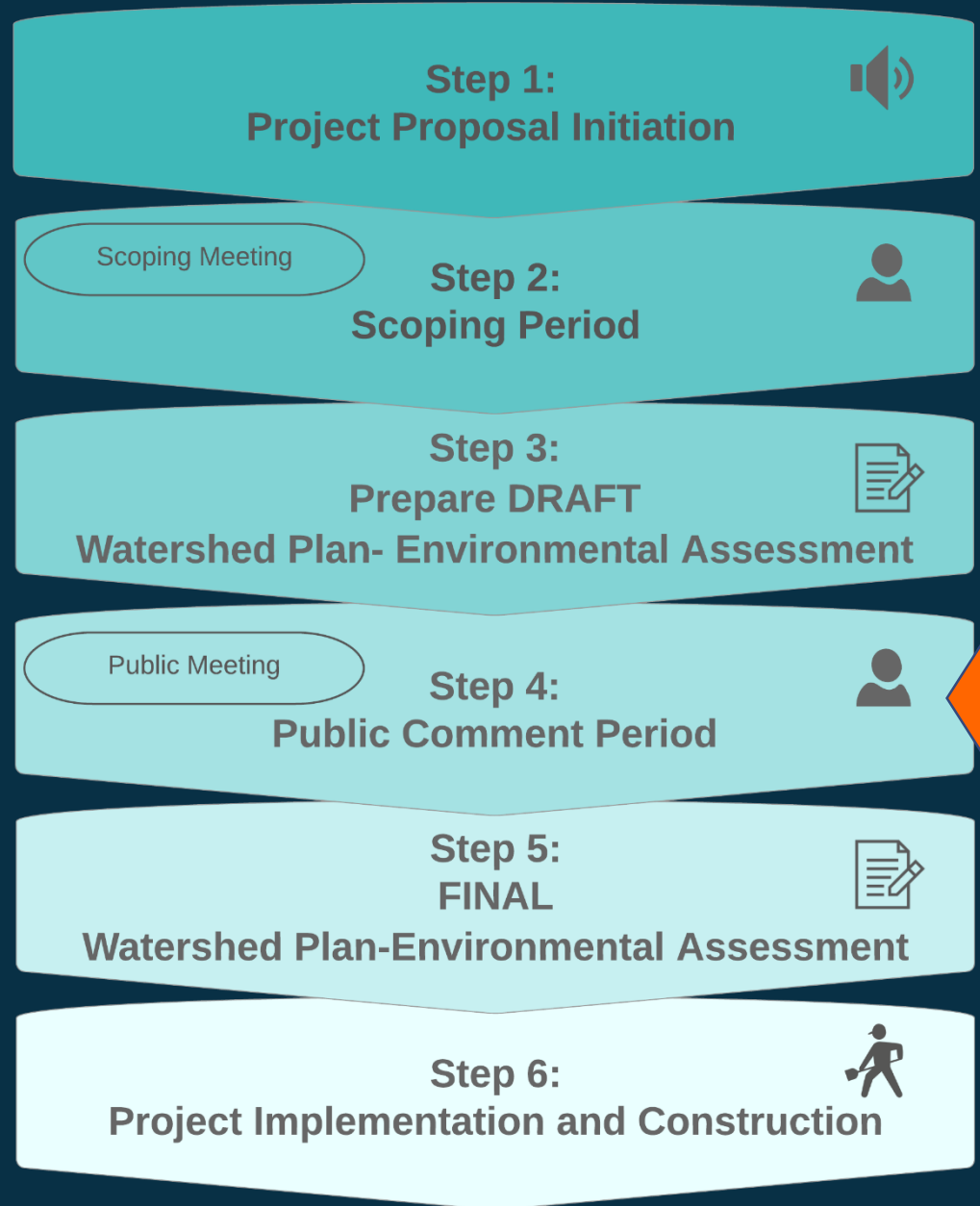
Part 1: Project Overview

Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (P.L. 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



What a Plan-EA Should Address

- Purpose and need for the project
- Proposed Action
- Proposed Action alternatives
- Proposed Action effects
- Measures to minimize and mitigate impacts
- Economic analysis



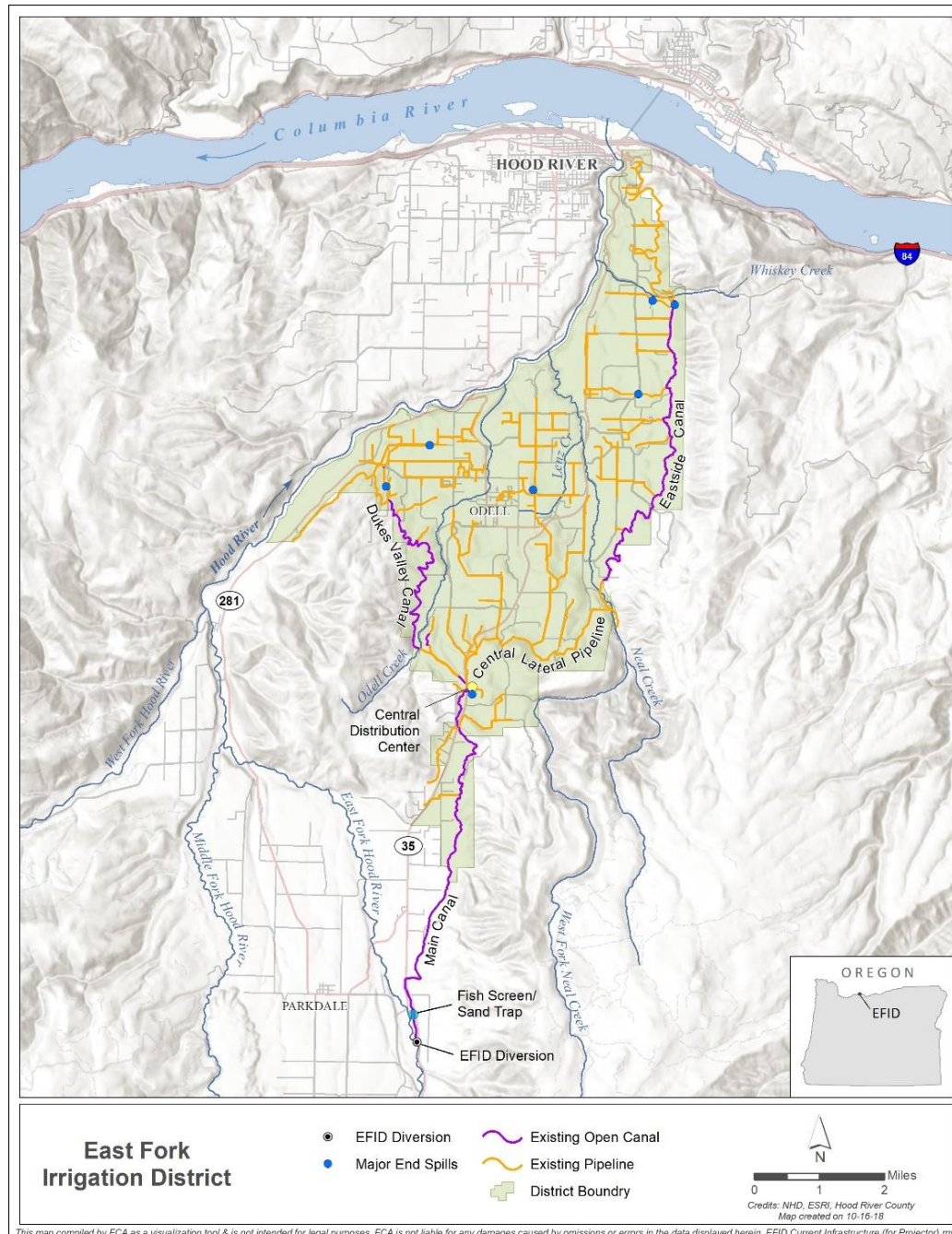
How the Plan-EA is Organized

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



East Fork Irrigation District Overview

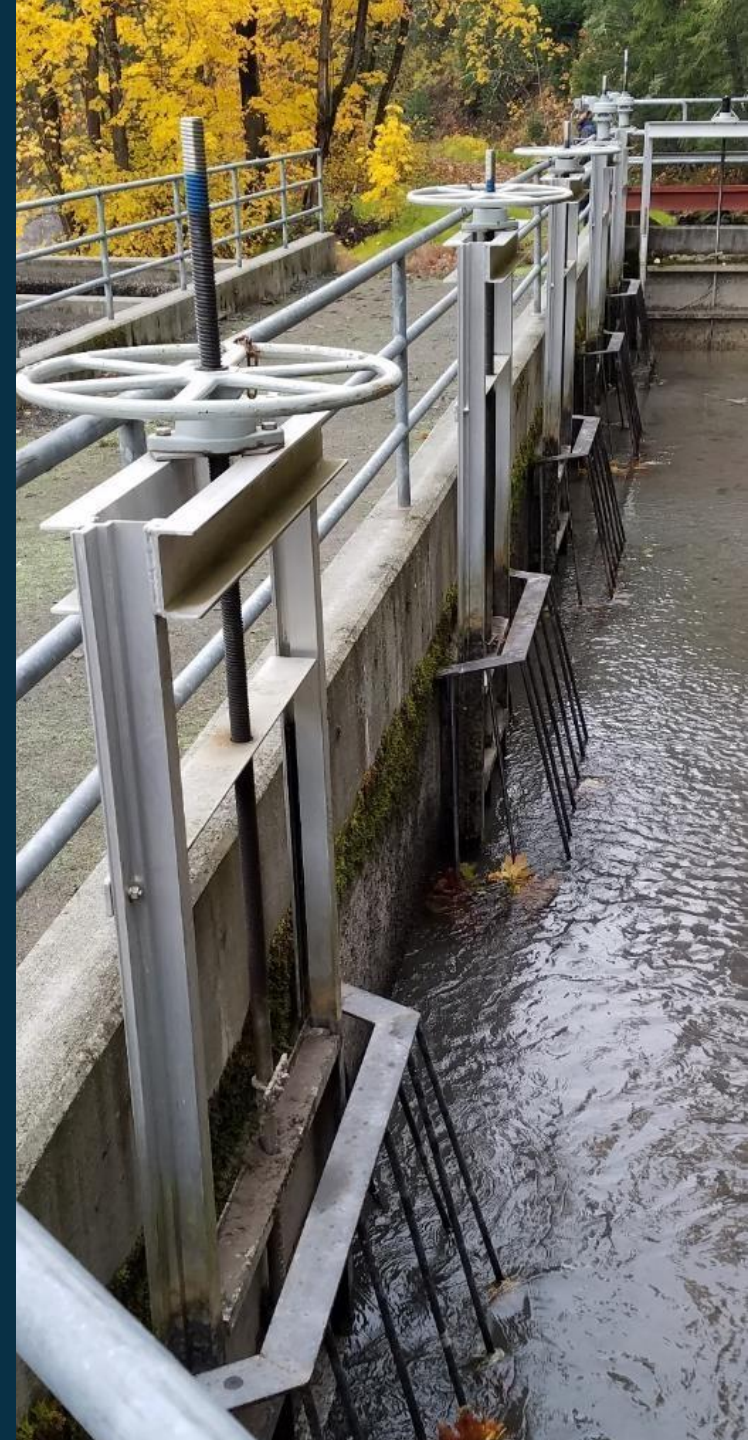
- ~**9,600** acres irrigated
- **990** irrigators served
- Irrigation season **April-Sept**
- 83-mile irrigation system
- Approx. **18%** or **16.6 cfs** of water diverted lost to end spills (**5,287 acre-feet/ yr**)



This map compiled by FCA as a visualization tool & is not intended for legal purposes. FCA is not liable for any damages caused by omissions or errors in the data displayed herein. EFID Current Infrastructure (for Projector).mxd

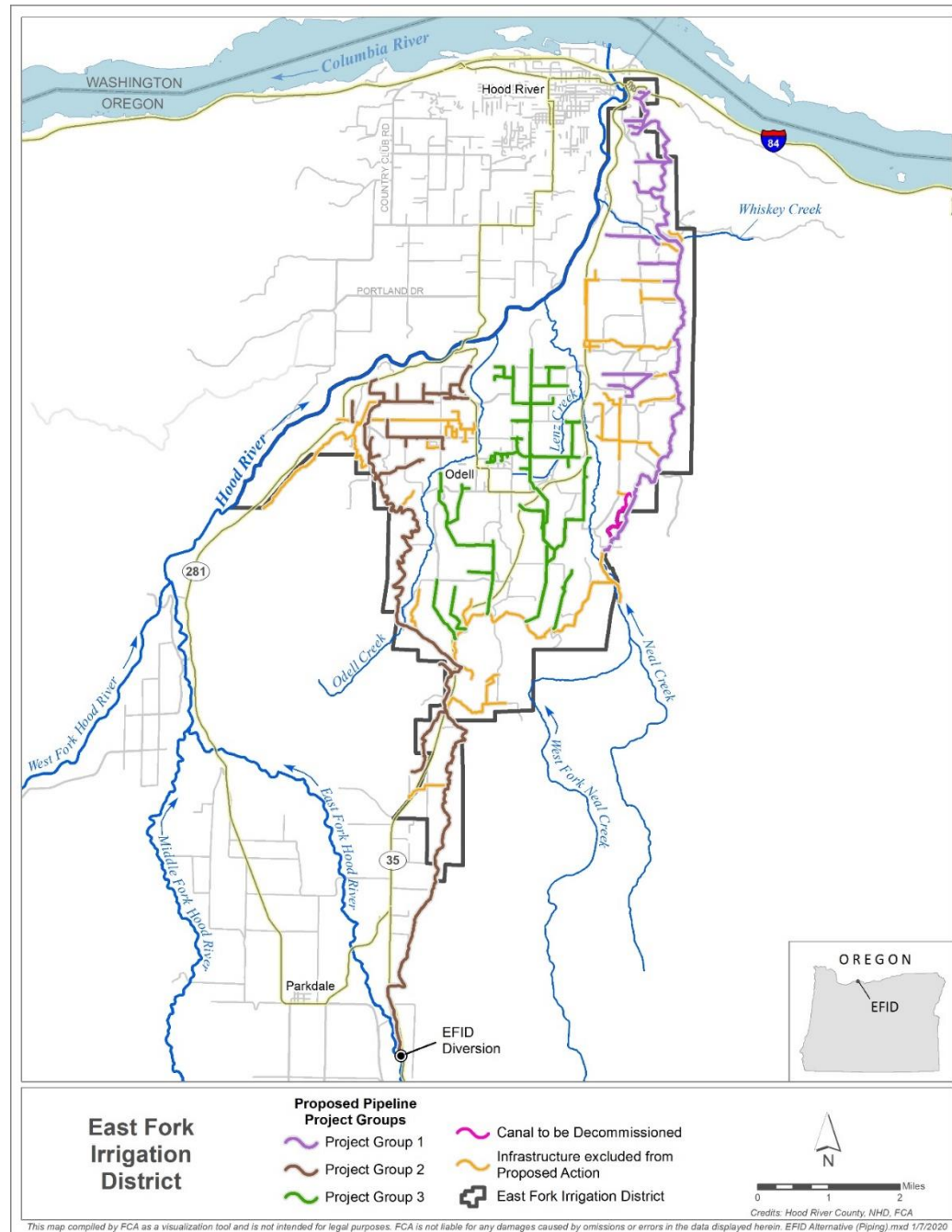
Project Purpose and Need

- Improve water conservation in District-owned infrastructure
- Improve water delivery
- Improve irrigation water quality
- Reduce public safety risk
- Reduce environmental issues



Proposed Project

- Pipe up to **17.5 miles** of canals and upgrade up to **38 miles** of aging pipe
- 3 project groups over 10 years
- Upgrade turnouts
- Install sedimentation basin
- **\$68,700,000**



What this Project would Achieve

- Improve water delivery reliability
- Pressurization for patrons
- Decrease sediment in irrigation water
- Protect up to 12.45 cfs of water in the East Fork Hood River
- Improve District's water supply
- Improve public safety



Plan-EA Resource Analysis

- Cultural Resources
- Fish and Aquatic Resources
- Land Use
- Public Safety
- Socioeconomic Resources
- Vegetation
- Visual Resources
- Water Resources
- Wetlands and Riparian Areas
- Wildlife Resources
- Ecosystem Services



Image by Austin Smith, Bear Boot Productions

Part 2: Breakout Session

We Would Like Your Comments

- Your input helps NRCS make informed decisions
- Paper forms are available
- Comments must be specific to EFID's project
- Staff from NRCS and FCA are available to assist
- 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 February 13, 2020

Opportunities to Comment

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



Thank you for coming
Please bring your comments to the tables

