

Ochoco Irrigation District Irrigation Modernization Project



Public Scoping Meeting: September 18, 2019
Watershed Planning & Infrastructure Modernization



Meeting Agenda

Part 1:

Process & Project Overview

Part 2:

Public Comment Breakout Session



Part 1: Process & Project Overview

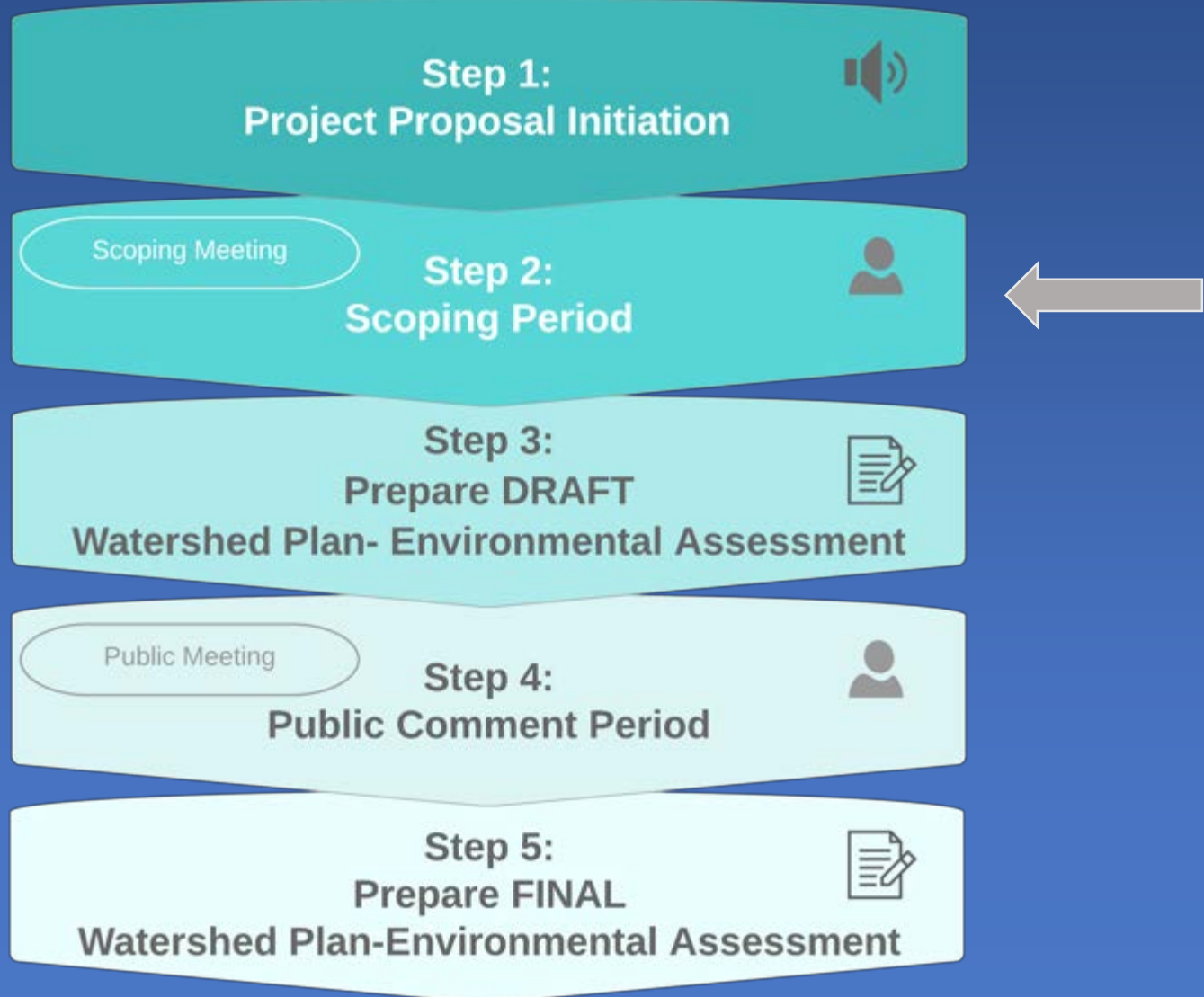


Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program

- Available funding:
Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (P.L. 83-566)
- Managed by:
US Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- To qualify, irrigation districts must have:
 - 1) match funding
 - 2) authorized Final Watershed Plan

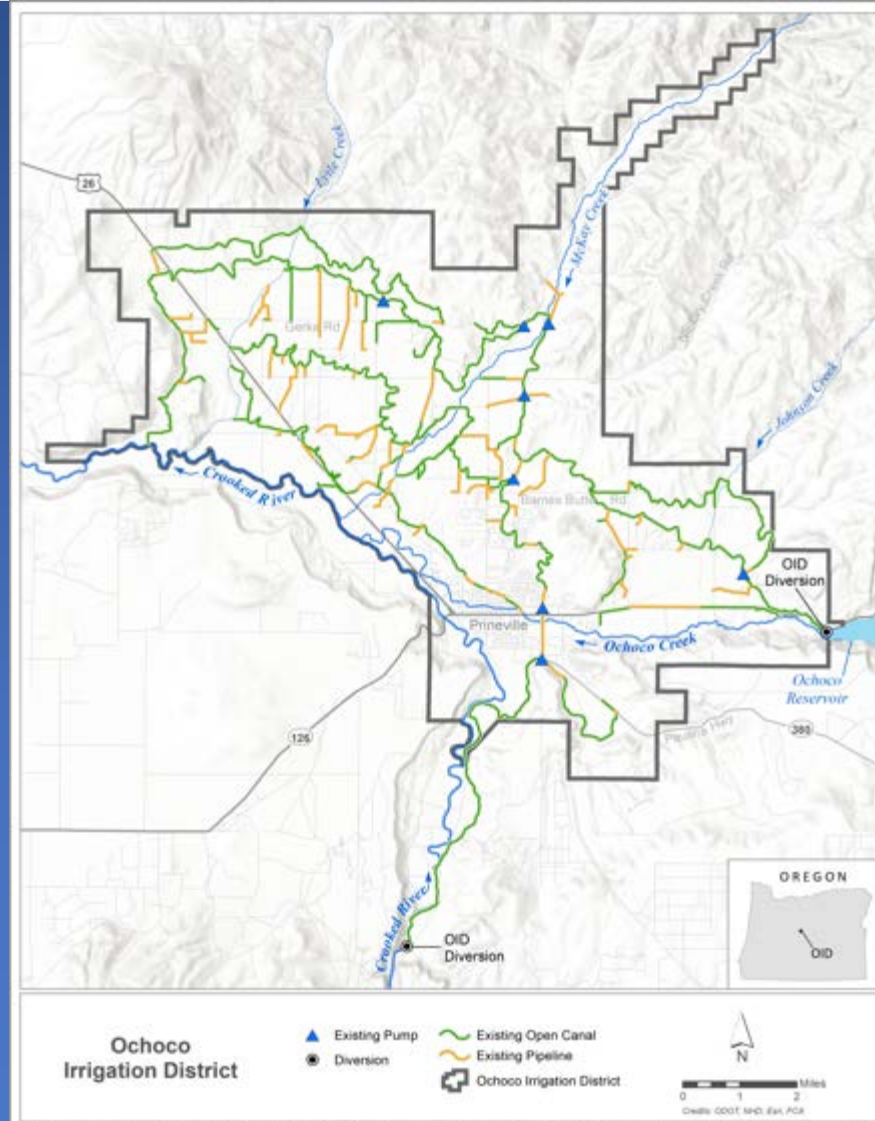


Watershed Planning Process



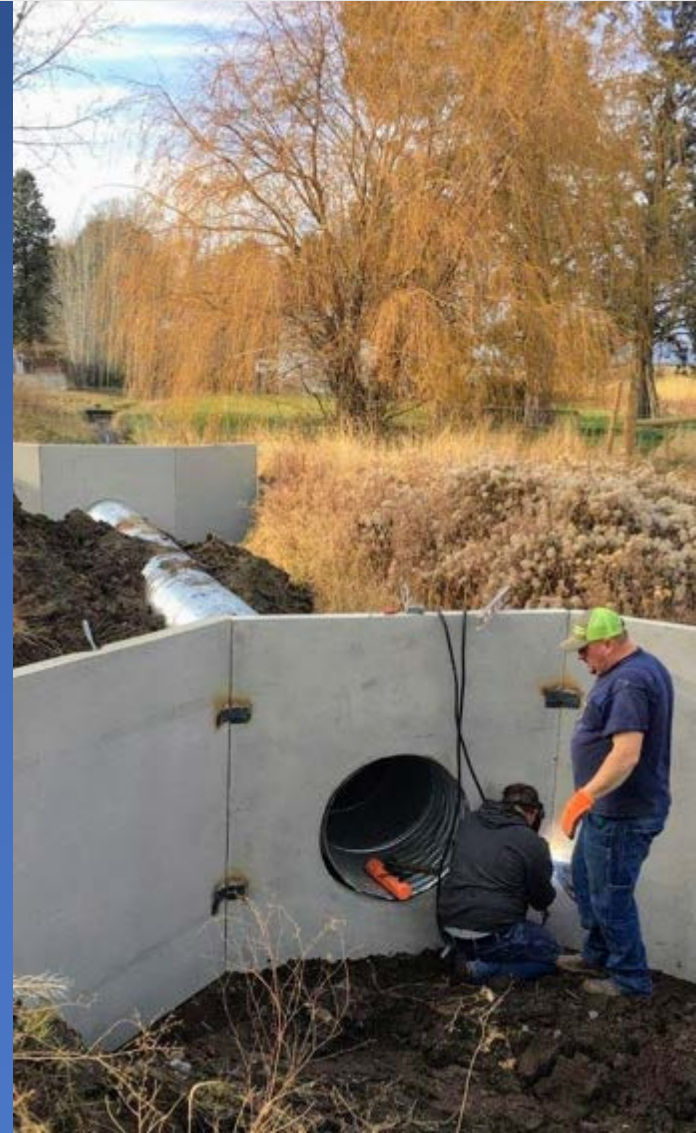
Ochoco Irrigation District Overview

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



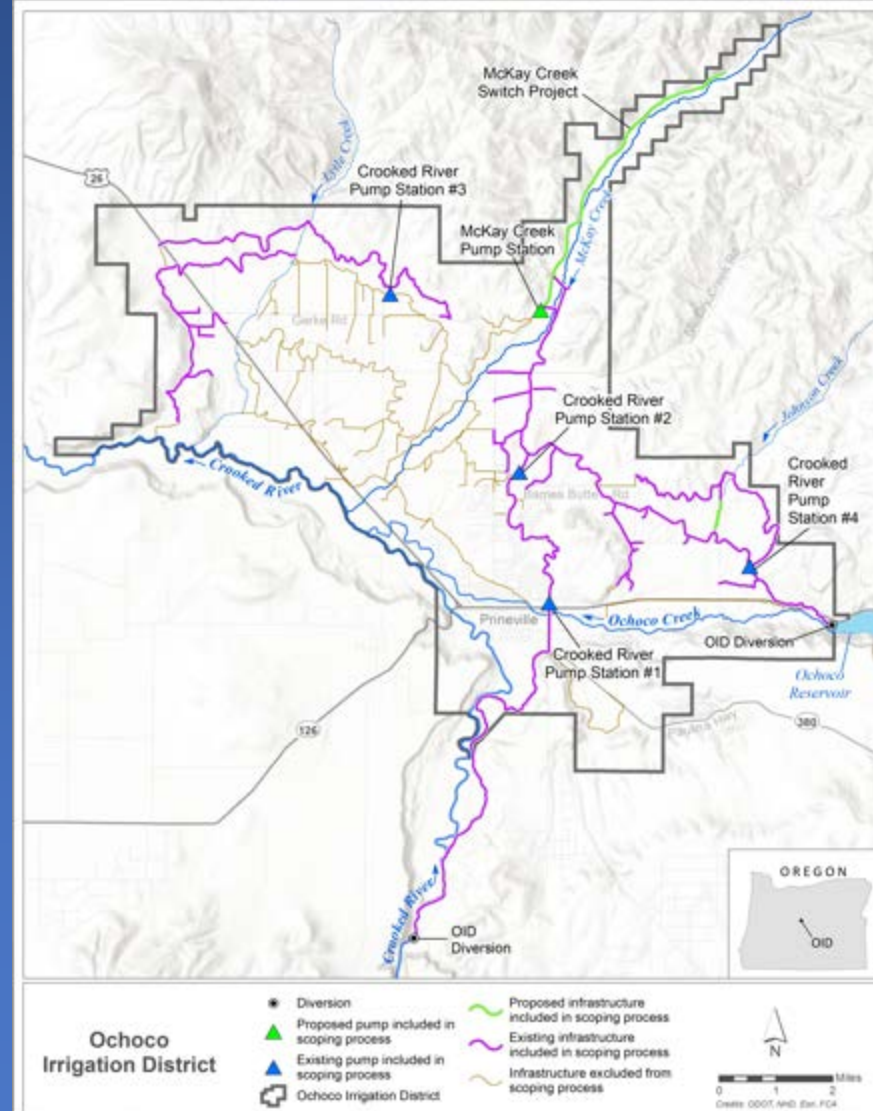
Ochoco Irrigation District Project Purpose and Need

- **Improve conveyance efficiency**
Up to 30% of diverted water is lost to end spills and canal seepage
- **Improve water delivery reliability**
Pump stations are aging and less efficient at pumping water
- **Reduce public safety risk**
Open canals pose risk of injury or drowning
- **Reduce environmental issues**
Poor water quality
Degraded fish and aquatic habitat



Ochoco Irrigation District Proposed Project

- Pipe and pressurize **56 miles** of high priority open canals
- Install new **pump stations**
- Upgrade **turnouts** for pressurized water deliveries
- Construct infrastructure to implement the **McKay Switch Project**



Ochoco Irrigation District Potential Project Opportunities

- **Save** water by reducing conveyance inefficiencies
- **Improve** irrigation water management and delivery reliability
- **Reduce** patron energy consumption and costs
- **Reduce** operations and maintenance costs
- **Minimize** risk of injury or drowning
- **Increase** streamflow in Ochoco & McKay creeks and Crooked River
- **Enhance** water quality for agriculture and the environment

Part 2: Breakout Session



Example Comments

- **Proposed project actions**

Will the construction affect my irrigation deliveries?

- **Alternatives**

What about using groundwater as an alternative to piping?

- **Surrounding environment** (cultural, natural, and economic resources)

I am concerned about wildlife in the area. Will you study the impacts of the project on wildlife?



Opportunity to Provide Comments

- Submit comments tonight
- Learn more at oregonwatershedplans.org
- Submit comments after this meeting

Email: ochoco.id.comments@gmail.com

Online: oregonwatershedplans.org

Phone: (541) 716-6085

Mail: Attn: Ochoco Watershed Plan
Farmers Conservation Alliance
102 State St.
Hood River, OR 97031

Thank you for coming



Please bring your comments
to the tables