Tulelake Irrigation District
Infrastructure Modernization Project

Public Scoping Meeting: February 8, 2023

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

TID

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Meeting Agenda

Part 1

Process
&
Project Overview

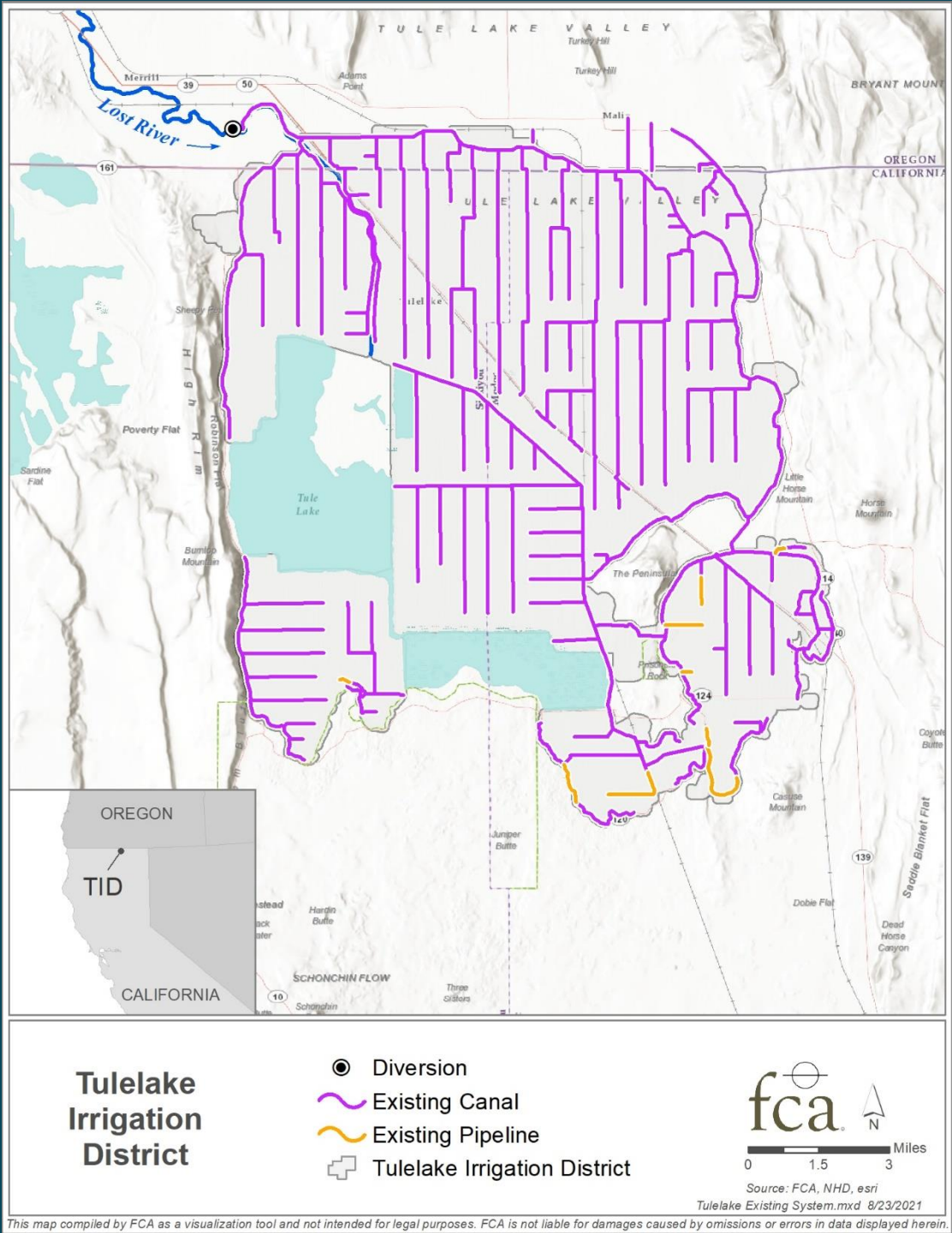
Part 2

Public Comment

Breakout Session

Tulelake Irrigation District Overview

- **63,000 acres irrigated**
- **924 patrons**
- **243 miles of conveyance**



Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (PL-566)

Managed and funded by

US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

To qualify, irrigation districts must have:

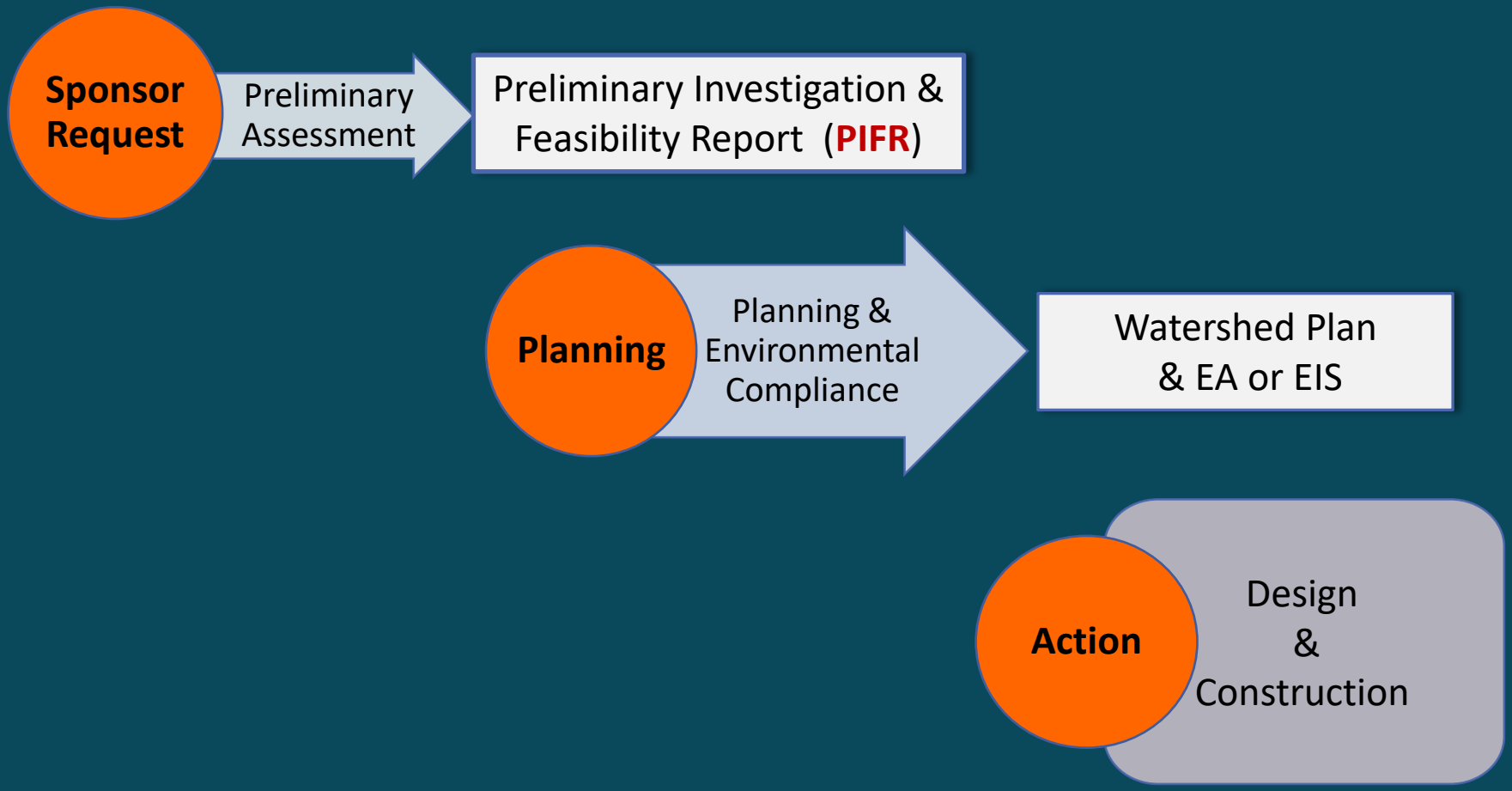
1) Match funding

2) Authorized Final Watershed Plan – Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA)

General PL-566 Requirements

- Must have a project sponsor
- Project must fit at least one of the eight authorized uses
- > 20% of benefits are agricultural or for rural community
- No structure with > 12,500 acre-feet of flood storage
  > 25,000 acre-feet of total capacity
- Projects that need over $25 million of federal construction funding require Congressional approval

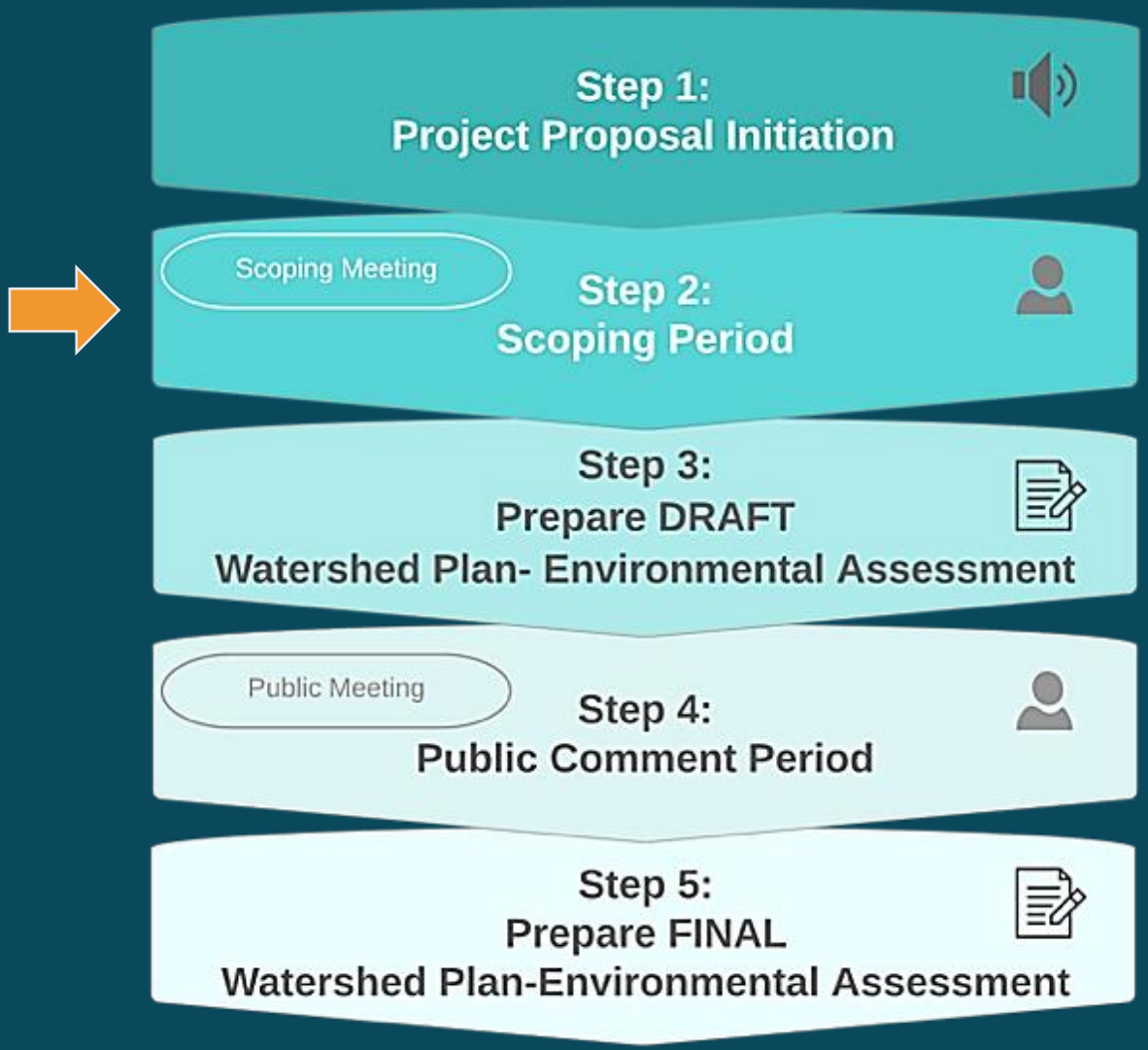
Watershed Program Phases



NEPA and PR&Gs

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
  - Categorical Exclusions
  - Environmental Assessments
  - Environmental Impact Statements
- Principles Requirements and Guidelines for Water and Land Related Resources Implementation Studies (PR&Gs)

Watershed Planning Phase and Process



What a Plan-EA Includes

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

Project Purpose and Need

- **Need**
  - There is a need for improving water conveyance efficiency and operation of District infrastructure to deliver water more reliably

- **Purpose**
  - Improving Agricultural Water Management by improving District water management operation and conserving water along District infrastructure.

Potential Proposed Actions

Install

SCADA, computerized and network data system to assist in water management

Convert

Open canals to pipes and lined canals to assist in water management

Upgrade

Pumps in the system for energy and water delivery efficiency

Design

And replace water level control structures

Potential Project Benefits

- Support and maintain agriculture in the area through enhanced water delivery and management
- Reduce water loss, operations and maintenance involved in delivering irrigation water
- Support wildlife and migratory bird habitat, and Lower Klamath Lake Wildlife Refuge

Potential Resources to be Analyzed

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

Part 2
Public Comment Breakout Session

Example Comments

- **Proposed project actions**

  Will 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?*
- **NEPA**

  How will my comments be addressed

Opportunities to Submit Comments

- Submit comments today
- Online: **tulelakewatershedplan.com**
- Email: **tulelakewatershed@gmail.com**
- Phone: (541) 716-6085
- Mail: Attn: Tulelake Watershed Plan
  Farmers Conservation Alliance
  102 State St.
  Hood River, OR 97031

Scoping Period Ends March 10, 2023

Thank you for coming

Breakout session for questions and comments