



Powder Valley Water Control District Pub. Law 83-566 Infrastructure Modernization Project

Public Comment Meeting: July 21, 2026

Powder Valley Water Control District



Meeting Agenda

Part 1

Planning Process &
Project Overview

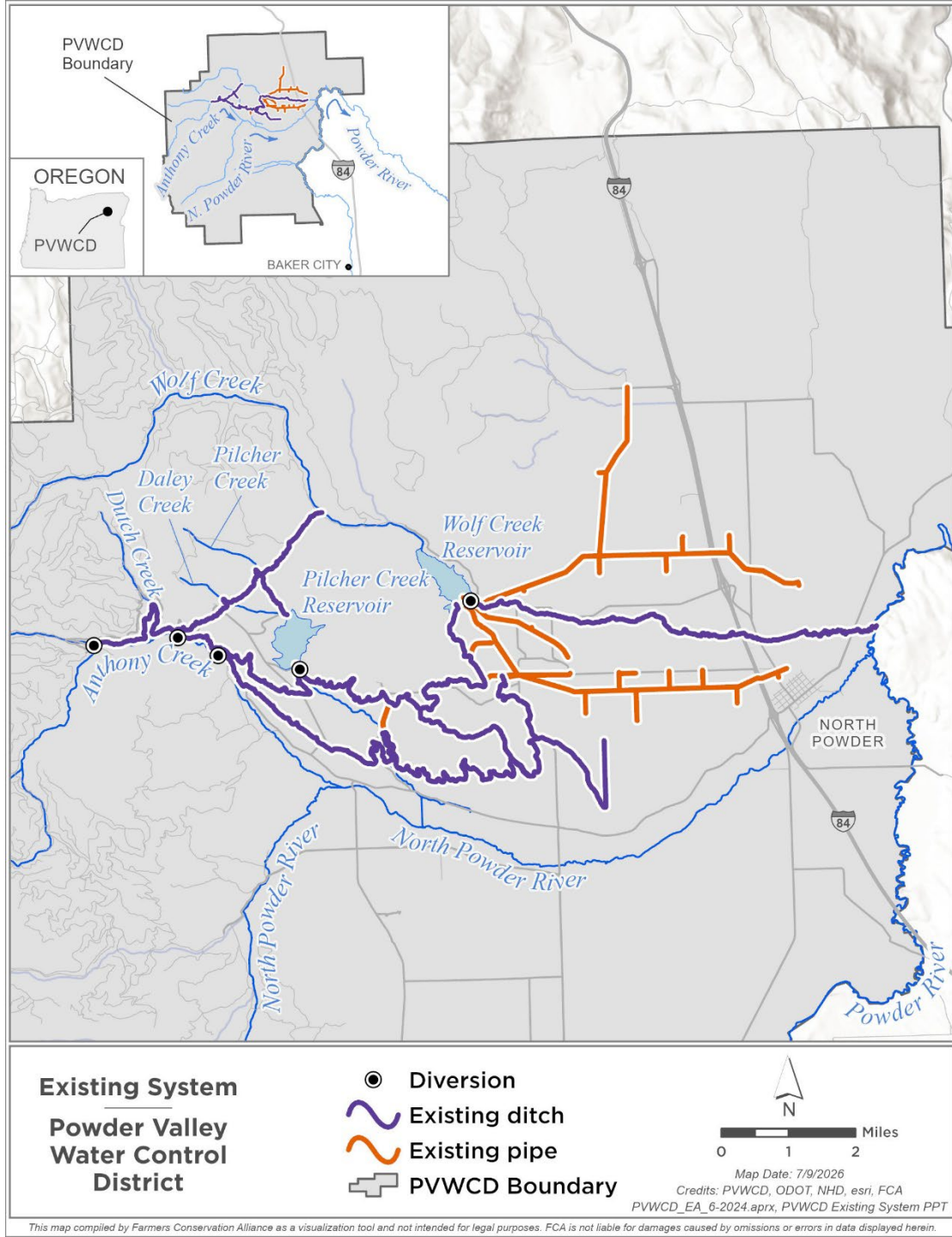
Part 2

Questions, Feedback &
Breakout Session



Powder Valley Water Control District

- **17,000** irrigated acres
- **152** irrigators served
- Irrigation season **April-Oct**
- **105-mile** system
 - **61** miles open ditches
 - **44** miles pipelines



Why PL-566?



Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (PL-566)

- Managed and funded by NRCS
- Provides planning, design, and construction funding
- Covers a wide range of projects that address watershed issues



General PL-566 Requirements

- Must have a project **sponsor**
- Project must fit an **authorized use**
- Must have agricultural or rural community **benefits**

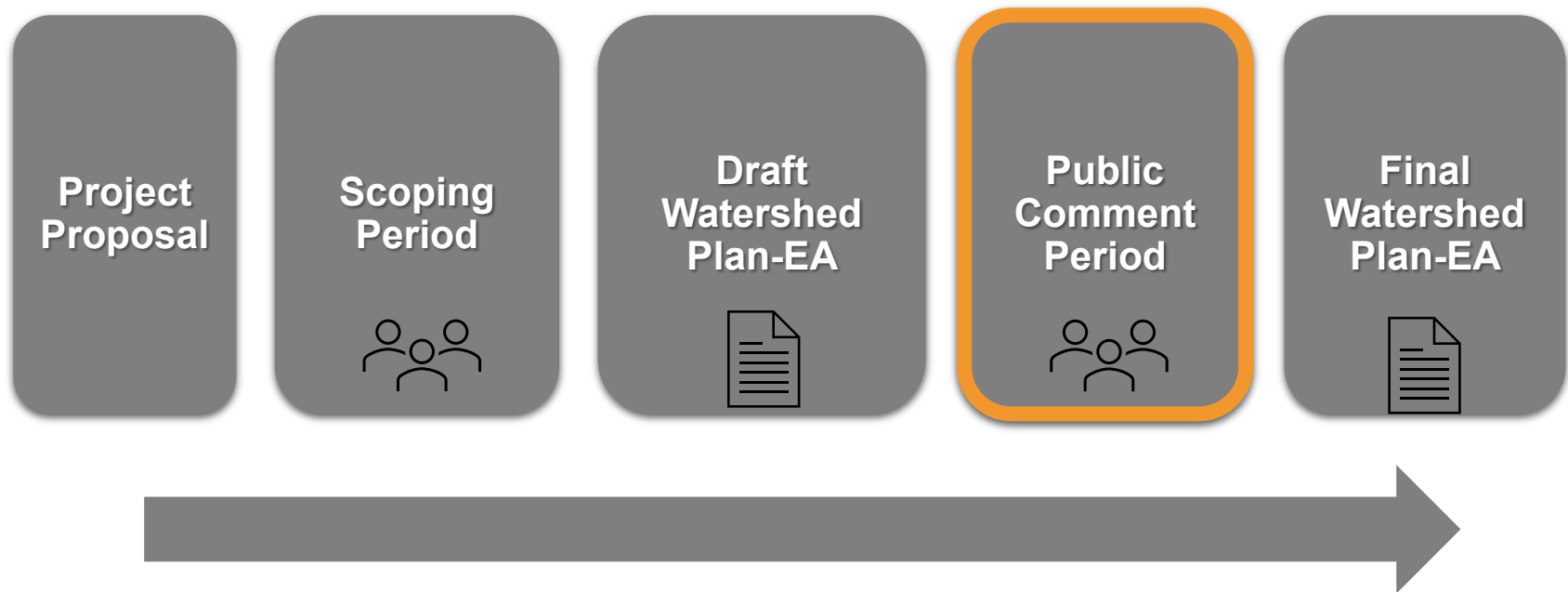


Additional Requirements

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



Watershed Planning Process



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



Project Purpose and Need

- Improve the District's water delivery system by:
 - Upgrading aging infrastructure
 - Reducing water loss
 - Delivering water more reliably



Formulation of Alternatives

- 7 alternatives were considered
- Each was evaluated based on:
 - Whether it meets the project's goals
 - Federal planning requirements
- 2 alternatives were selected for detailed study



Alternatives

No Action Alternative

Future without Federal Funding

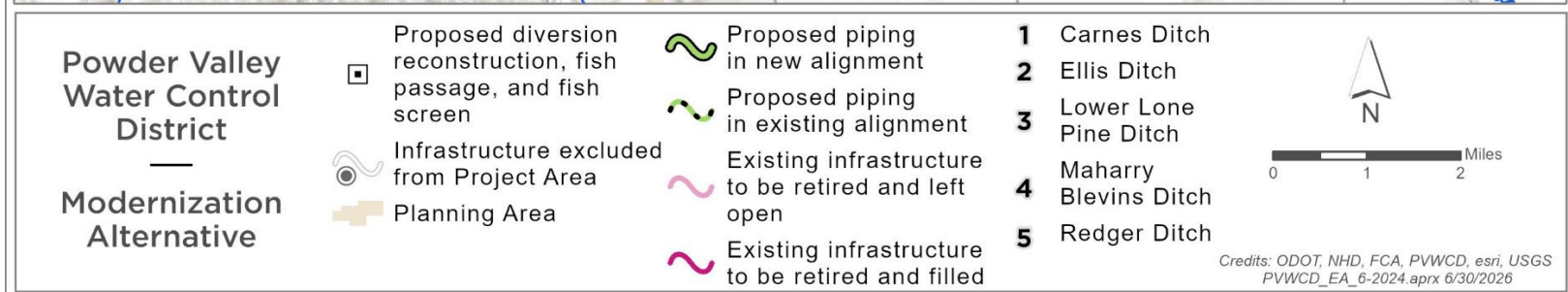
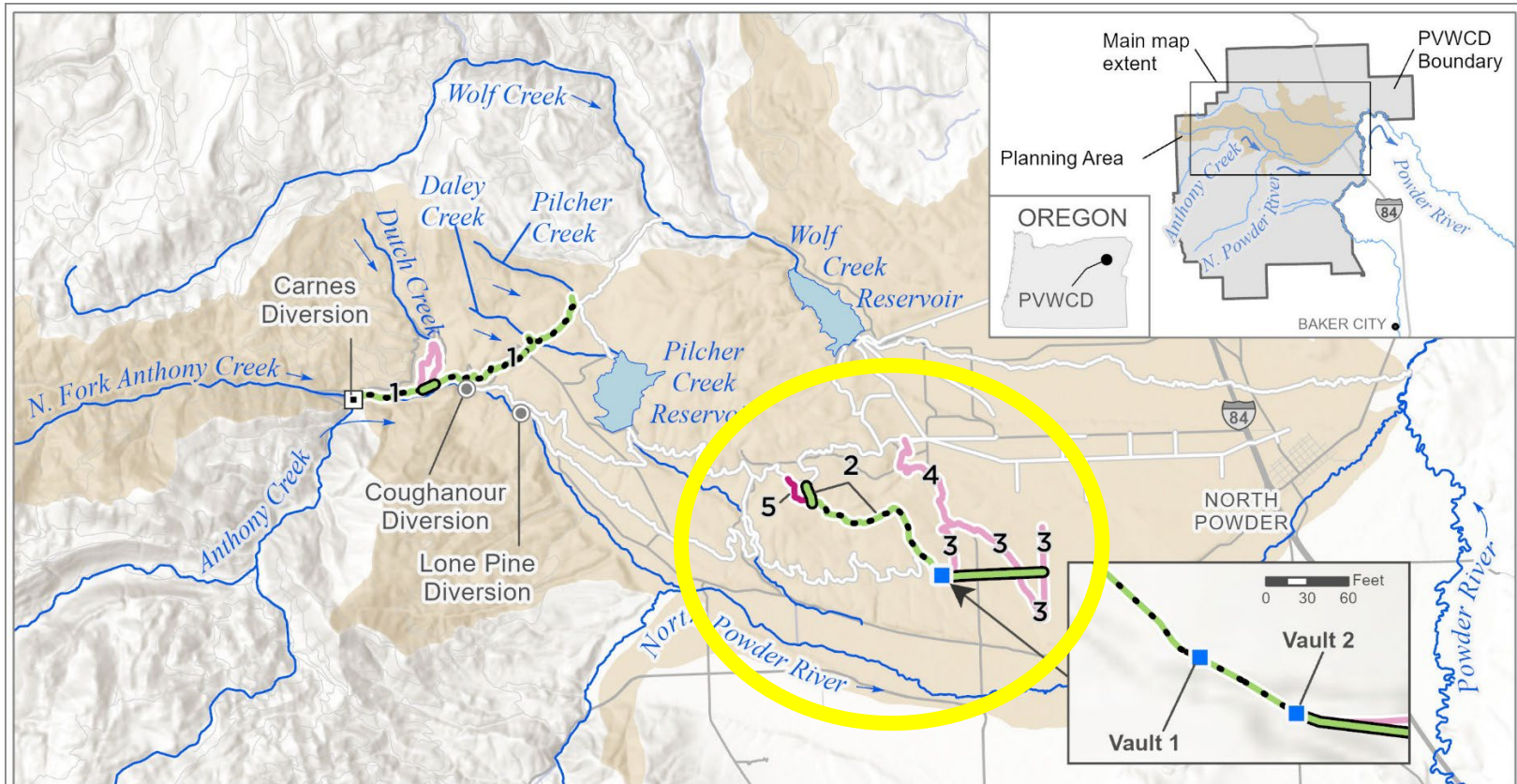
- No project improvements would be built
- PVWCD would continue to operate and maintain its existing system as it does today

Modernization Alternative

Future with Federal Funding

- Install C-1 Pipeline (2.1 miles) and retire 5.5 miles of open ditches
- Pipe Carnes Ditch (3.2 miles)
- Install fish screens and fish passage at the Carnes Diversion

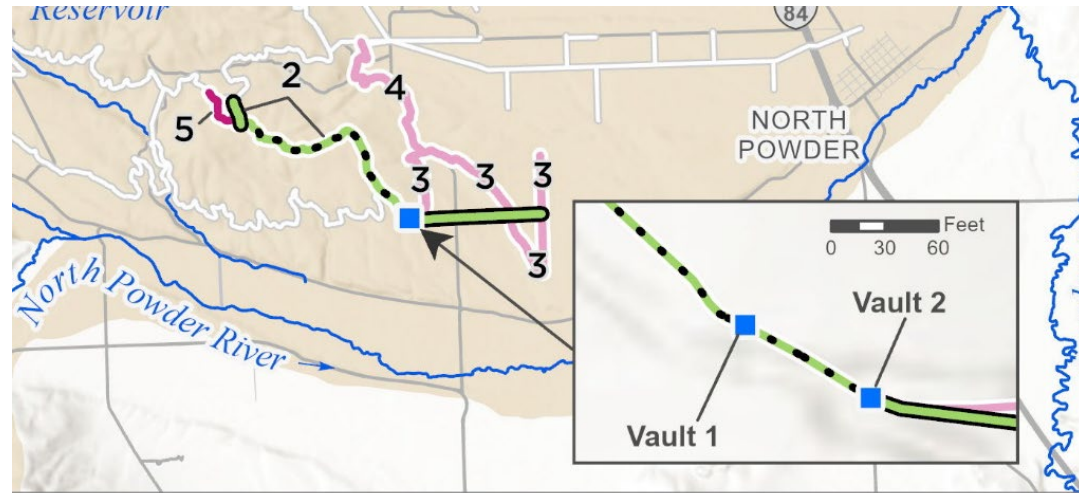
Project Group 1: C-1 Project



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Project Group 1: C-1 Project

- Pipe Ellis Ditch and extend new pipeline
- Retire the Redger, Maharry Blevins and end of the Lower Lone Pine ditches
- Install 2 underground concrete water vaults
- Upgrade 10 water delivery turnouts



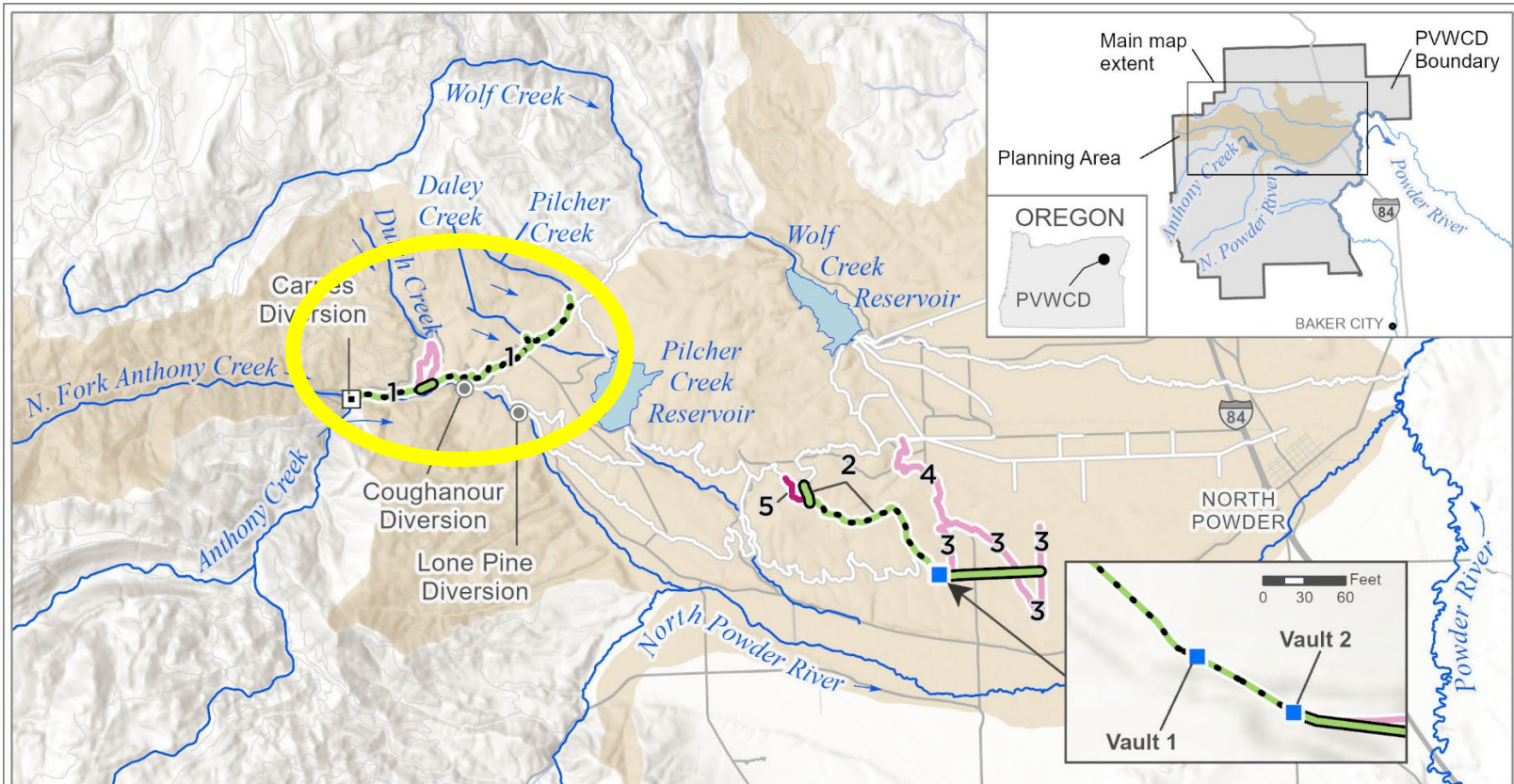
- | | | | |
|---|---|----------|-----------------------|
|  | Proposed piping in new alignment | 1 | Carnes Ditch |
|  | Proposed piping in existing alignment | 2 | Ellis Ditch |
|  | Existing infrastructure to be retired and left open | 3 | Lower Lone Pine Ditch |
|  | Existing infrastructure to be retired and filled | 4 | Maharry Blevins Ditch |
| | | 5 | Redger Ditch |



Credits: ODOT, NHD, FCA, PVWCD, esri, I
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Project Group 2: Carnes Pipeline



**Powder Valley
Water Control
District**

**Modernization
Alternative**



Proposed diversion
reconstruction, fish
passage, and fish
screen



Infrastructure excluded
from Project Area



Planning Area



Proposed piping
in new alignment



Proposed piping
in existing alignment

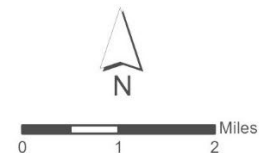


Existing infrastructure
to be retired and left
open



Existing infrastructure
to be retired and filled

- 1** Carnes Ditch
- 2** Ellis Ditch
- 3** Lower Lone Pine Ditch
- 4** Maharry Blevins Ditch
- 5** Redger Ditch

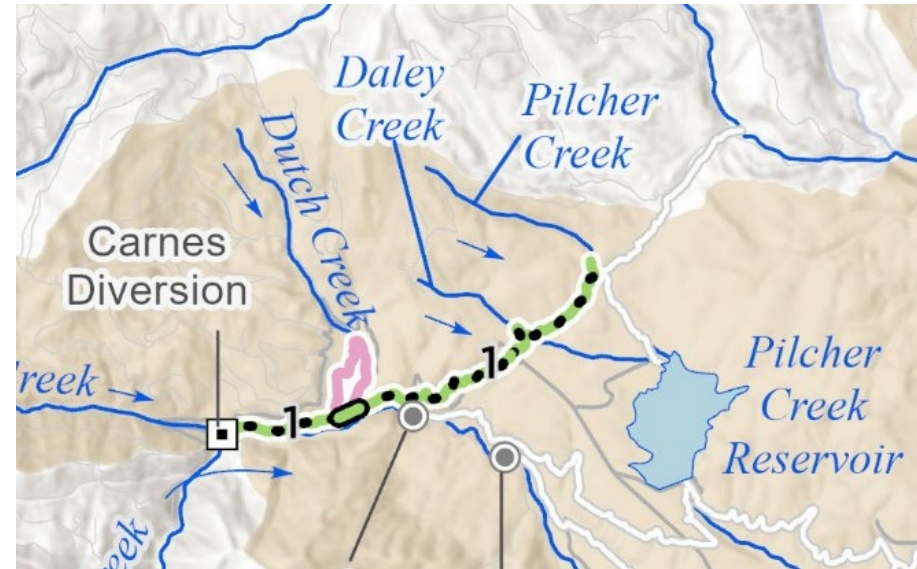


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Project Group 2: Carnes Pipeline

- Pipe Carnes Ditch from the Carnes Diversion to the Pilcher Creek Filling Channel
- Install pipeline crossings under Dutch Creek and Daley Creek
- Retire the Carnes Ditch loop around Dutch Creek
- Restore natural stream channels in Dutch Creek and Daley Creek
- Upgrade 2 water delivery turnouts



Project Group 3: Fish Screens and Passage

- Install fish screens at the Carnes Diversion
- Improve fish passage in Anthony Creek at the Carnes Diversion



What This Project Would Achieve

- Save water and support crop production during dry years
- Improve water delivery and make irrigation supplies more reliable
- Provide pressurized irrigation water to C-1 irrigators
- Increase streamflow in Anthony Creek
- Protect fish by installing fish screens and improving fish passage



Plan-EA Resource Analysis

- Cultural Resources
- Land Use
- Recreation
- Socioeconomic Resources
- Soils
- Vegetation
- Water Resources
- Fish and Aquatic Resources
- Wetlands and Riparian Areas
- Wildlife Resources



Project Timeline & Costs

Construction Timeline: **5 years**

Total Cost: **\$30,361,000**

Project Group	Construction Years	PL-566 Funds	Nonfederal Funds	Total
PG 1: C-1 Pipeline	0-1	\$8,127,000	\$2,681,000	\$10,808,000
PG 2: Carnes Pipeline	3-5	\$11,871,000	\$3,966,000	\$15,837,000
PG 3: Fish Screening & Passage	3-4	\$2,800,000	\$916,000	\$3,716,000
Total Project	-	\$22,798,000	\$7,563,000	\$30,361,000

We Would Like Your Comments

- Your feedback helps NRCS make informed decisions about the project
- **Submit your comments by mail, email, online, or by phone**
- All comments received will be considered and included in the Final Plan



Comment Period July 1–August 4, 2026

How to Submit Comments

- **Online:** watershedplans.org/powder-valley-wcd
- **Email:** powdervalley.wcd.comments@gmail.com
- **Phone:** (541) 716-6085
- **Mail:** PVWCD Watershed Plan
Farmers Conservation Alliance
102 State St.
Hood River, OR 97031