HERMISTON CITY COUNCIL

Work Session January 11, 2021

Council President Hardin called the work session meeting to order at 6:00pm. Present were Councilors Peterson, Barron, Davis, Spicerkuhn, Primmer, Duron, and Myers. Mayor Drotzmann was excused. Staff members in attendance were Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, City Attorney Gary Luisi, Chief Edmiston, Finance Director Mark Krawczyk, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong.

Northeast Oregon Water Association (NOWA)- Regional Water Efforts

NOWA Director, J.R. Cook, gave information (PowerPoint Presentation attached) regarding: Water history and timeline; limited and irreplaceable water resources; area agricultural terrain and how it supports our job creation, food growth and production; the CRUST Process/Project, continued committee turnovers and how that impacts the progress the committee makes; comparisons from the state of Washington vs the state of Oregon regarding water efforts, water from Basalt vs water from the Columbia River; regional plan that will benefit the area in many different aspects and the continued promises from NOWA that it intends to keep as long as NOVA continues to exist; water infrastructure projects to include previous, current and future projects; House Bill proposals; Water Sustainability Plan from NOWA, and the support from many diverse partners coming together to fix this water issue including support from the City, Congressman Cliff Bentz and Senator Jeff Merkley who have been great to work with.

The Council asked Mr. Cook what the City and citizens could do to help in this endeavor.

Mr. Cook implored all citizens to work together to sustain water as water is a mutual need for everyone and stated it's important to know what our area needs are, the affordability to maintain water, understanding what we can afford, and how the Regional Water System works and what this provides for our region. Oregon Leadership, at the executive level, has been absent for a majority of meetings and more is needed, which is a big concern for NOWA, this is one of the reasons why NOWA and other organizations continue to work with the Yakima Nation and others, without Oregon leadership representation, to continue straightening partnerships and working on this water plan.

After Mr. Cook answered other questions from the Council, there was no other discussion and Council President Hardin adjourned the work session at 6:55pm and stated the City Council would take a short break and convene the regular City Council meeting at 7:00pm.

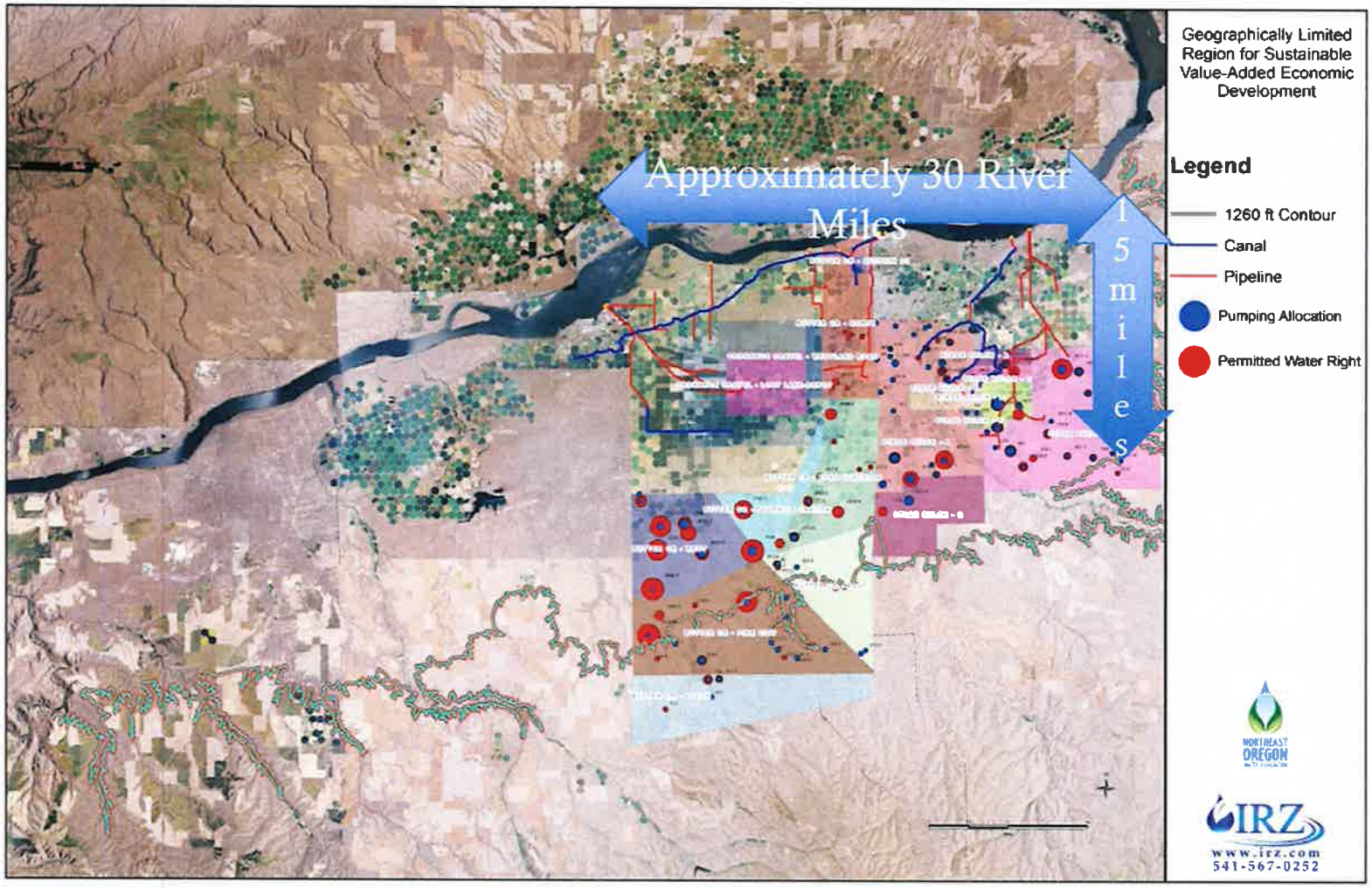
DRAFT



NORTHEAST OREGON WATER ASSOCIATION

LIFE DEPENDS ON WATER, WE DEPEND ON YOU.

C. River and Water Banking:



Water Terminology

- 1 Cubic Foot
  - +/- 7.5 gallons
- 1 Cubic-Foot-Second (cfs)
  - 1.98 acre-feet/day
- 1 Acre-Foot
  - 43,559 cubic-feet
  - 326,692 gallons
- Full Rotation Farmland
  - 3.5 AF/Acre
- Sustainable Annual Yield (SAY)
  - Amount of water that can be taken out of an aquifer and still maintain the static level at even

1 cfs =



1/2



SAY



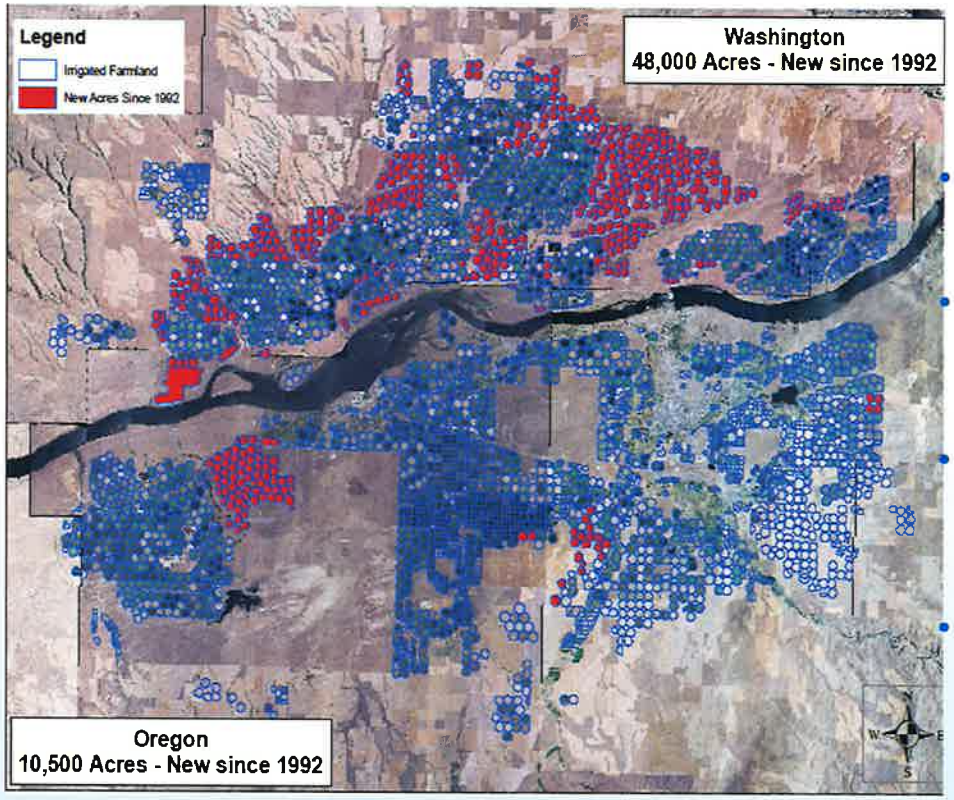
Compressed Basin Timeline

- 1855 Treaty with the Walla Walla, Cayuse and Umatilla Tribes (Note: CTUIR Water Rights Claim is still NOT SETTLED)
- 1916 Adjudicated decree of water rights to use waters of Umatilla River and its tributaries
- 1958 First reports of water table decline in Butter Creek area
- 1976 OWRD designates Butter Creek a Critical Groundwater Area (remanded until 1986)
- 1976 Critical Groundwater Area designated by OWRD for Ordnance Basalt and Gravel
- 1977 Lost Lake/Depot well owners initiated project to artificially recharge shallow gravel aquifer using existing canal system
- 1986 Critical Groundwater Area designated by OWRD for Buttercreek Basalt (Governor Atiyeh forms first Groundwater Task Force in Region, great plan but no memorialized implementation)
- 1988 Umatilla Basin Project authorized and funded by Congress -- allows irrigators to exchange Umatilla River water for Columbia River water
- 1990 DEQ declares 352,000 acres in Umatilla and Morrow counties as a groundwater management area (GWMA) due to nitrate contamination (Note: groundwater quality designation uses different data set than OWRD data set regarding who is connected to who. Those data sets continue to be segregated today)
- 1991 Critical Groundwater Area designated by OWRD for Stage Gulch Basalt
- 2004-2008 Development of the Umatilla Sub-Basin 2050 Water Management Plan
- 2008 Oregon Legislature passes SB 1069 authorizing $750 K to complete a feasibility study of the Umatilla Basin Aquifer Restoration Project (A milestone in OR water planning efforts – OR and AK w/o plan but still no clarity on how to memorialize implementation)
- 2009 Oregon legislature passes HB 3369 authorizing $2.5 million in grants and loan funding (a milestone in state water development efforts but still no emphasis on implementing regional water sustainability efforts and implementation. Just a band aid)
- 2010 - Umatilla Basin Water Commission (UBWC) forms to coordinate the implementation of the Umatilla Basin Aquifer Restoration Project and address basin wide needs
- March 2011 – Stage I of Umatilla Basin Aquifer Restoration Project Completed
- August 2013 – UBWC completes work authorized by IGA and dissolves due to finding that recharge can't fix everything, CRUST Declaration of Cooperation Signed
- August 2013 - Northeast Oregon Water Association (NOWA) forms to continue water development projects under a coordinated, comprehensive effort
- 2013 – NOWA unveils "*new*" water supply plan that takes pressures off of fish rearing tributaries of the Columbia River, improves aquifer conditions and builds the local economy (legislation to memorialize implementation and accountability from the state fails)
- 2015 – Oregon legislature approves $11 million in funding for regional Columbia River water supply projects
- 2015 – NOWA begins to do their best to implement the 2013 plan without structural foundation (including local funding and structure)

What we mean by Geographically Limited and Irreplaceable

LITERALLY: THE BEST HIGH-VALUE AG IN THE WORLD

- WATER LIFT
- WEATHER
- EXISTING SYSTEMS
- TERRAIN
- PROCESSING
- ALTERNATIVE FUEL NEEDS



VALUE OF WATER
"From Dry to Fry"

Dryland wheat - $100
- 40 bushel fallow wheat

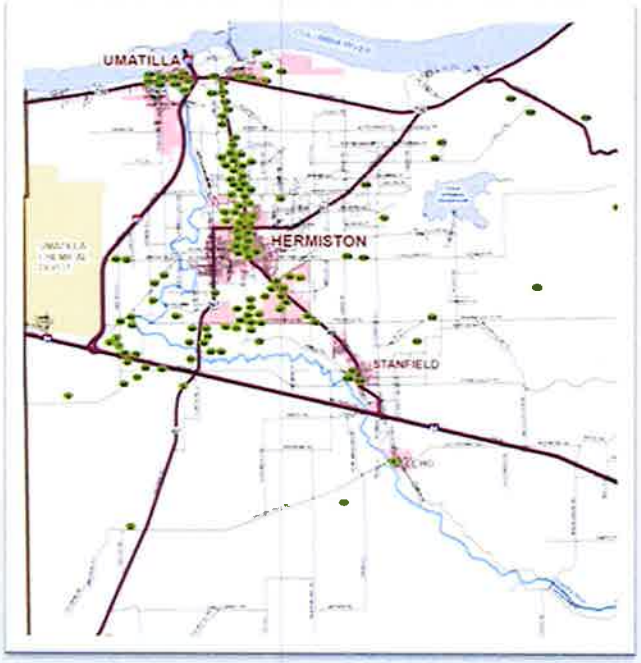
1st Acre Foot - $500
- 100 bushel irrigated wheat

2nd Acre Foot - $1,500
- Hay, Some vegetables, grass seeds, etc.

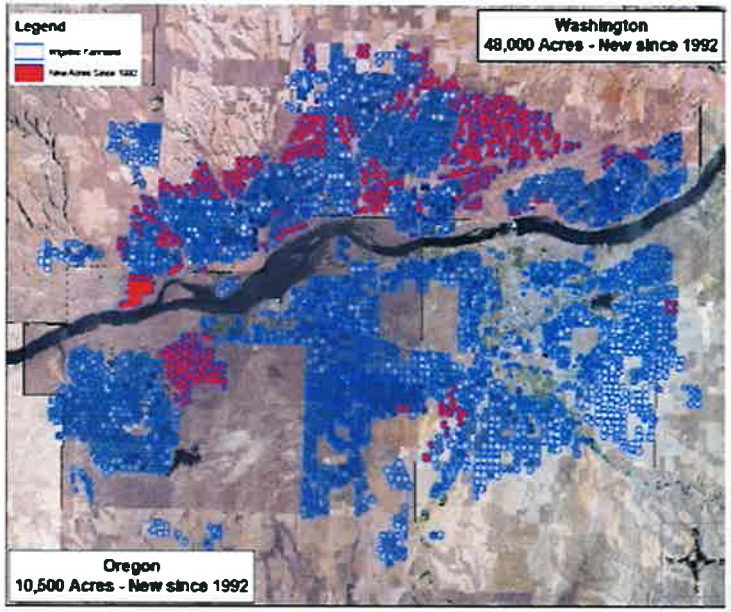
3rd Acre Foot - $5,000+
- High value root crops
- Full Rotation

OBC and State Leadership Recognize the Value of High-Value Irrigated Agriculture

THE CASE: The" Ag-Base"that Supports Job Creation and Innovation



Geographically limited: Existing acreage and "in-fill" growth



The POTENTIAL: Jobs, Funds, Future (Source: Bruce Sorte, OSU)

Type of Effect	*Employment Full & Part-Time*	*Labor Income ($)*	*Total Value Added ($)*	*Output ($)*
Direct (Manufacturer)	5,989	158,052,082	225,015,545	1,063,288,422
Indirect (Suppliers)	3,054	99,471,765	173,184,004	357,002,946
Induced (Household Spending)	1,209	37,182,718	75,567,449	124,808,178
Total Effect	**10,252**	**294,706,566**	**473,766,999**	**1,545,099,547**

RAW PRODUCT AND A 20 MINUTE DRIVE

EXAMPLE 1: SWEET CORN - AN OREGON STAPLE

125 ACRES = $120,000 = $3.2 MILLION

SWEET CORN

						PER ACRE				TOTAL			
#	SUPPLY CHAIN	PRICE UNIT	PRICE UNIT	$/UNIT	%	TONS	POUNDS	OUNCES	$	TONS	POUNDS	OUNCES	$
1	Farm	Harvested Corn	Ton	$ 95.00		10.00	20,000	320,000		1,250.00	2,500,000	40,000,000	
2	Farm	Usable Corn	Ton	$105.56	90%	9.00	18,000	288,000	$ 950	1,125.00	2,250,000	36,000,000	$ 118,750
3	Processor	Bulk Finished	Pound	$ 0.30	60%	5.40	10,800	172,800	$ 3,240	675.00	1,350,000	21,600,000	$ 405,000
4	Repackage Facility	Packaged Finished	Pound	$ 0.10	100%	5.40	10,800	172,800	$ 1,080	675.00	1,350,000	21,600,000	$ 135,000
5	Retail	Store Sales	Ounce	$ 0.15	100%	5.40	10,800	172,800	$ 25,920	675.00	1,350,000	21,600,000	$ 3,240,000







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PLEASE NOTE OBSCURE REFERENCE

RAW PRODUCT - CARROTS

EXAMPLE 2: OREGON'S OTHER ORANGE POWERHOUSE

125 ACRES = $475,000 = $8.6 MILLION

CARROTS

#	SUPPLY CHAIN	PRICE UNIT	PRICE UNIT	$/UNIT	%	PER ACRE TONS	PER ACRE POUNDS	PER ACRE OUNCES	PER ACRE $	TOTAL TONS	TOTAL POUNDS	TOTAL OUNCES	TOTAL $
1	Farm	Harvested Carrots	Ton	$ 95.00		40.00	80,000	1,280,000		5,000.00	10,000,000	160,000,000	
2	Farm	Usable Carrots	Ton	$105.56	90%	36.00	72,000	1,152,000	$ 3,800	4,500.00	9,000,000	144,000,000	$ 475,000
3	Processor	Finished Product	Pound	$ 0.35	60%	21.60	43,200	691,200	$ 15,120	2,700.00	5,400,000	86,400,000	$ 1,890,000
4	Repackage Facility	Packaged Finished	Pound	$ 0.10	100%	21.60	43,200	691,200	$ 4,320	2,700.00	5,400,000	86,400,000	$ 540,000
5	Retail	Store Sales	Ounce	$ 0.10	100%	21.60	43,200	691,200	$ 69,120	2,700.00	5,400,000	86,400,000	$ 8,640,000







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RAW PRODUCT - POTATOES

EXAMPLE 3: PARADISE FOR POTATOES



125 ACRES = $750,000 = $24 MILLION

POTATOES

						PER ACRE				TOTAL			
#	SUPPLY CHAIN	PRICE UNIT	PRICE UNIT	$/UNIT	%	TONS	POUNDS	OUNCES	$	TONS	POUNDS	OUNCES	$
1	Farm	Harvested Potatoes	Ton	$150.00		40.00	80,000	1,280,000		5,000.00	10,000,000	160,000,000	
2	Farm	Usable Potatoes	Ton	$176.47	85%	34.00	68,000	1,088,000	$ 6,000	4,250.00	8,500,000	136,000,000	$ 750,000
3	Processor	Finished Product	Pound	$ 0.35	60%	20.40	40,800	652,800	$ 14,280	2,550.00	5,100,000	81,600,000	$ 1,785,000
4	Retail	Store Sales	Ounce	$ 0.30	100%	20.40	40,800	652,800	$195,840	2,550.00	5,100,000	81,600,000	$24,480,000







THE ROTATION & PROCESSING



THE ROTATION

1. **Potatoes**
2. **Grass/Wheat/Feed**
3. **Grass/Wheat/Feed**
4. **Onions/Carrots/Other Root Crop**
5. **Double Crop/Other Vegetable**

VALUE ADDED, PROCESSING, INTEGRATION

1.	Potato Plant:	$300 million, 10,000 acres = $30,000/acre
2.	Grass Plant:	$ 25 million, 10,000 acres = $2,500/acre
3.	Dairies & Milk Proc.:	$ 50 million, 10,000 acres = $5,000/acre+
4.	Onion Pack & Proc.:	$ 50 million, 10,000 acres = $5,000/acre
5.	Vegetable Plant:	$100 million, 10,000 acres = $10,000/acre

THE CRUST* PROCESS: Another great plan with no capacity for success



- The CRUST Basically consolidated recommendations from 4 previous plans/efforts
  - 1986 Groundwater Task Force Report
  - 1988 Umatilla Basin Plan
  - Various plans and commitments stemming from the 1988 Umatilla Basin Exchange Act (Hatfield)
  - Umatilla Sub-Basin 2050 Plan (Adopted in 2008)
- The Basin has confirmed goals:
  - We developed a list of projects and policy needs for both the short and long term
  - We developed a list of goals and a crisp list for SUCCESS
  - We developed recommendations for structure to ensure "skin in the game to see it through"

- CRUST memorialized the above:
  - Recognized the need
  - Identified what can and can't be supported by full consensus of state interest groups
  - Addressed a need for clarity on how we move forward
  - Recommended a pathway for long-term accountability and maintenance of interest

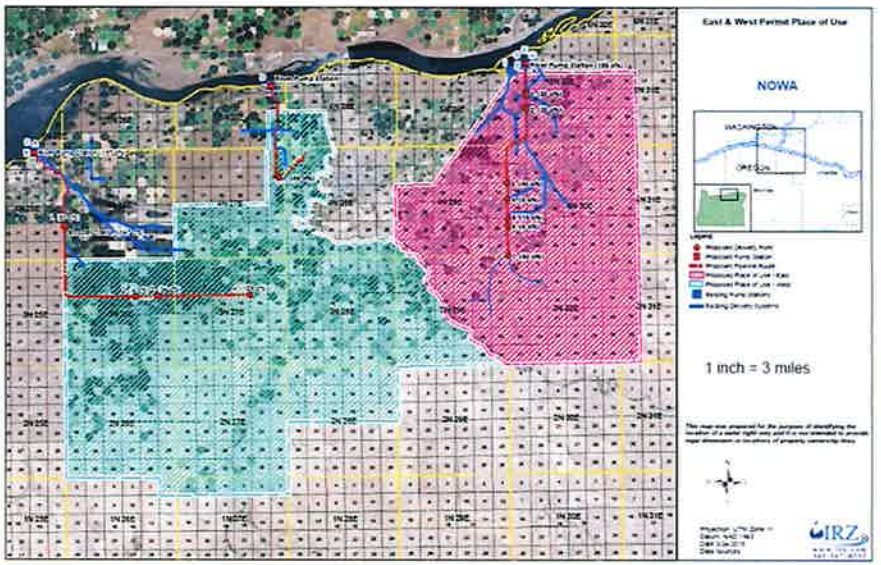
- **In February, 2013 the CRUST was signed**
  - Implementing Legislation in 2013 (SB 846) to place same level of measurables as WA Columbia River Water Management Program (Chapter 90.90 RCW) and YBIP leg (2013) FAILS
  - In 2015 the Umatilla Basin received $11 million to construct projects but has since struggled to implement remaining concepts of the CRUST DOC
  - As of 2020 only 3 of 21 members who signed CRUST still in the positions that committed to the effort (institutional capacity is gone and no legislative benchmarks established to ensure that concepts are implemented)

*CRUST: Columbia River-Umatilla Solutions Task Force (https://orsolutions.org/osproject/crustaskforce)

Local Definition of Success (2013 OBC):

- USE OF:
  - 150,000 (500 cfs) – Acre-Feet (500 CFS = .0025% of average daily flow, or .004% at low flow) of Columbia River water.
    - Negotiated down to 180 cfs for first phase due to mitigation water right totals
- AND:
  - Infrastructure penetrating our four critical groundwater areas
    - Three Projects to facilitate a fix!
- WHICH WILL:
  - Give large and small acreage owners a chance to make a difference
  - Encourage innovation and entrepreneurship
  - Generate billions in economic activity and thousands of local and regional jobs (all sectors)
  - Take pressures off of over-appropriated groundwater and Columbia River tributaries
  - Guarantee commitment to and access to future long-term main-stem projects
  - Build a customer base for regional partnerships in NE Oregon to aid fish, farms and families





A ***Simple*** Columbia River Compare and Contrast Since 2006

- Washington
  - Legislated Office of Columbia River (RCW 90.90)
  - Legislated Yakima Basin Integrated Plan (RCW 90.38)
  - Leveraging non-federal resources into major capital projects
  - Managing water more effectively and regionally
  - Looking to the future
- Oregon
  - Developed "Water Resources Strategy" provided defense for increased state budgets
  - Developed a "Drought Task Force" provided some recommendations
  - Passed statewide grant funding programs
  - Tried and failed to lift a 100 year water vision
  - Still studying the past and lacking structural accountability or regional benchmarks
  - Local Plans with no State Implementation Commitment

Water Source Facts

Basalt Groundwater

- Total acres affected
  - +/- 250,000
- Total certificated groundwater rights
  - 190, 466 AF/year
- Total water right volume cut off through CGA restrictions
  - 127,038 AF/year (67%)
- Total currently pumped: 63,428/year

- Note: All diversions in Basin and all groundwater right wells (Points of Appropriation) are monitored and reported annually. State still generalizes demand and use even with detailed data, at significant expense, provided to the State.

Columbia River (at McNary)

- Average Daily flow
  - 180,000 cfs
  - 356,000 AF/day
- Total MAX pumped under pre-1994 water rights
  - +/- 1,200 cfs (0.6%)
- Total new mitigated water rights issued
  - 180 cfs (0.1%)

  - **Total Mitigation Secured to date: 112 cfs**
  - **Less than a half day's flow volume of the C. River can fix all of the Umatilla Basin's groundwater problems for the entire year**
  - **We can't help or hurt the mainstem but we can work on tributary and groundwater enhancement!!!**

The Regional Plan

Step #1 (2015): Mitigated Water rights and infrastructure and memorialized structure to implement multi-biennial effort

- Facilitates economic benefit
- Facilitates environmental benefit
- Facilitates social benefit if protections are established to prevent speculation and splinter efforts
- Note: Only two of three infrastructure projects funded
- Note: SB 846 memorializing implementation of CRUST DID NOT PASS leaving basin on its own to try to implement and fund its fixes.

Step #2: Basalt Relief/Bank (Basin had to fight hard to get this started in 2019)

Step #3: Permanent Mitigation Program and, hopefully, a functioning basalt savings and banking program

Promises NOWA Made and Remains Committed too:

- Private Business will Pay its fair share
  - The first two projects (not counting time value of money) breakdown to the following
    - East and West costs = $94 Million ($11 million public/$83 million private)
    - 9% public/91% private investment
    - **Over $94 million in non-federal in-kind match WASTED**
- Projects will facilitate measurable economic return
  - The new Port of Morrow Economic Impact Analysis is out (Now over $2 Billion annually and growing)!
  - Over $600 million in new plant investments in the last year alone
- Projects will facilitate tangible environmental and public benefit (note for discussion here)
  - Basalt Savings, groundwater recovery and Banking
  - Fish Screens
  - C. Basin Mitigation/fishery enhancement
  - Support CTUIR tribal water rights settlement

All of this is coordinated at the local level There is NO structural foundation if NOWA dissolves. LET THIS SINK IN!







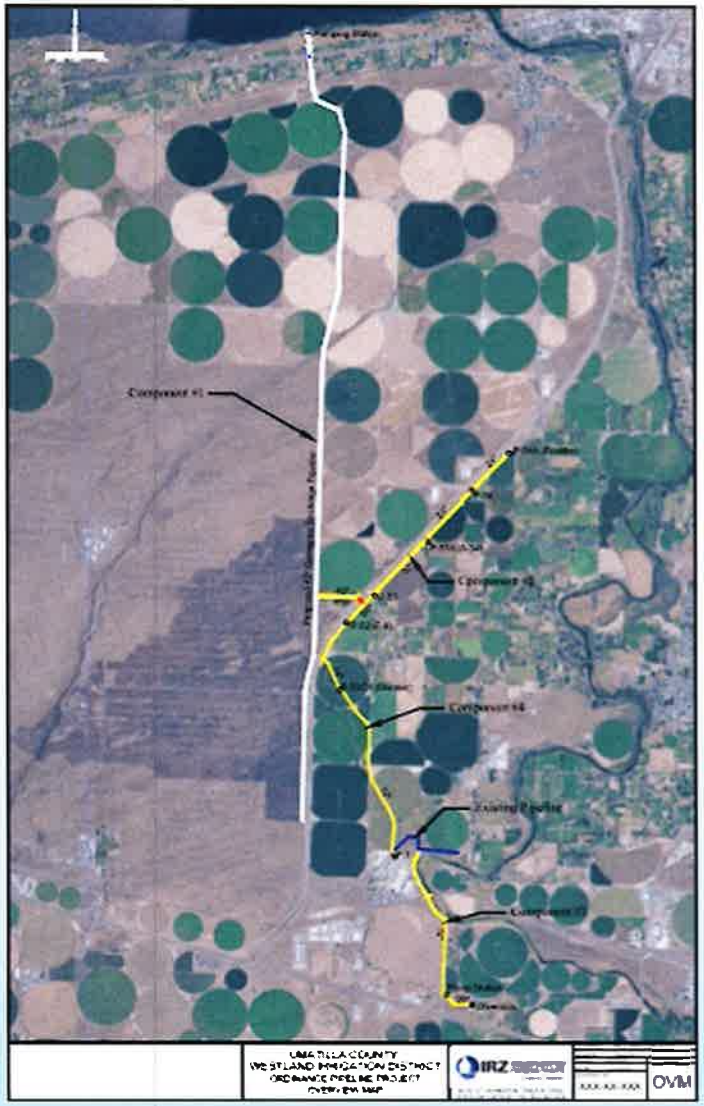


East Project (Completed: October, 2020)
$54 Million

WEST PROJECT (Completed: April, 2020)
$31 Million



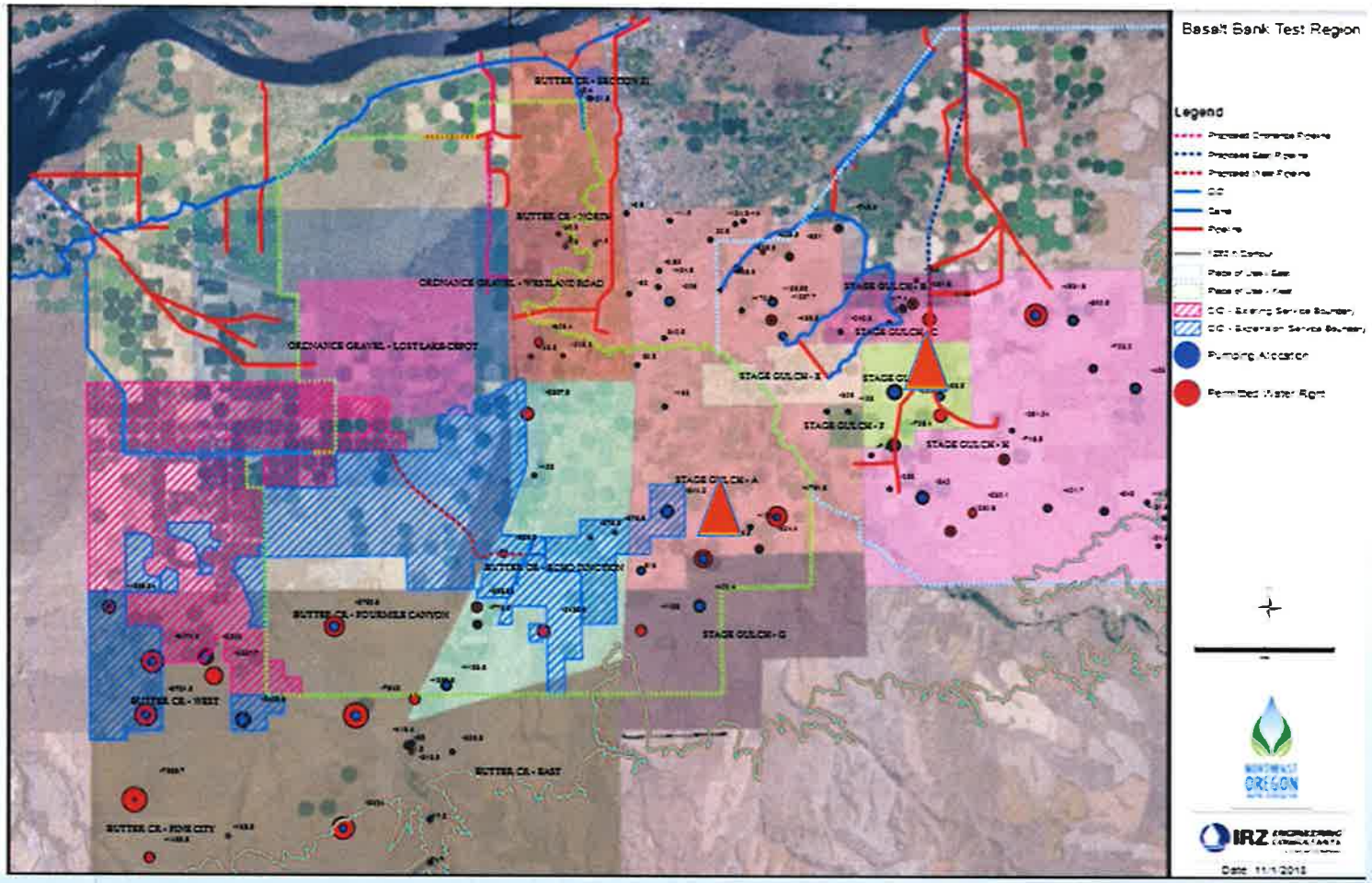
Ordnance Project Remains



Support County Construction

- $16.9 million
  - Seeking $7 million in Federal Funding through RCPP
- Recharge Testing
  - Seeking State funding for up to $2 million in recharge testing
- Need region to get behind
  - Need to stop competing and start working together

Water Rights, Projects and Basalt Bank Test Region



Basalt Bank Testing Needs

Need #1: Replacement Water

- No way to relieve pressures on basalt without replacing basalt allocation with a different water source
- Note: We can't buy our way out of this problem

Need #2: Need to make Columbia River cost equal to or less than groundwater pumping cost

- Cost to pump groundwater is +/-$60
- Cost to pump Columbia River water is $125
  - Need to either get state to pay for full pipe or use a trust account to pay the farmer the difference (+/- $65) to make going to the river a wash

Need #3: A way to protect participants and saved groundwater, and monitor the aquifers response (5 year test)

(Note: See Governor's Task Force Report and VRA)

HB 2819 Proposal (Became HB 2377 then funded through Christmas Tree)

Needs and Purpose of HB 2819

Regional Needs (identified through the 2018 Basalt Stabilization Work Group):	**What HB 2819 Does:**
Need #1: To test strategies to save and bank groundwater currently being pumped, senior water rights holders need assurance that both their water rights will be protected and that water they agree not to be pump will be protected from others pumping it during the testing period.	**HB 2819** ensures that landowners participating in a groundwater savings program will: 1) Be protected from losing their current water rights 2) See that water they save will be protected by the State from further appropriation
Need #2: As the Columbia River projects are currently more expensive than pumping groundwater, a cost share must be instituted to make up the difference between pumping sustainable Columbia River water and pumping native groundwater.	**HB 2819** provides funding, during a pilot period, to make up the difference between pumping the more expensive Columbia River water and pumping native groundwater, ensuring that water right holders will be able to participate in the program without being harmed financially.
Question to be Answered through Pilot: Can we recover our groundwater aquifers **naturally**	

Four planning efforts have lead us to this step:
Umatilla Basin Groundwater Task Force (1986), Umatilla Sub-Basin 2050 Water Management Plan (2008), Columbia River – Umatilla Solutions Task Force (2013), Governor's Basalt Stabilization Work Group (2018)

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Questions that Basalt Stabilization and Bank Testing Could Help Answer:

- Are Sub-Areas and SAY's accurate (who's connected to who and how much pumping is sustainable?
- Can mother nature stabilize or recover statics without artificial injection?
- Can the Umatilla Basin meet its water demands sustainably while also building an underground storage account for drought and climate change resiliency?

NOWA Multi-Biennium Water Sustainability Plan

Note: This is NOWA's list. There is no memorialization of this list beyond NOWA's leadership

Biennium	2015-2017	2017-2019	2019-2021	2021-2023	Notes
Basin Deliverables					
Step #1: Secure 180 CFS of the 500 CFS of Needed Columbia River water through a Temporary Mitigation Program and Build Three (3) Regional Water Delivery Projects into Critical Groundwater Areas					
Deliverable #1A: Secure Funding Package for East Regional Project (owned by the East Improvement District) **Proposed Cost (2015): $31 Million** **Final Cost (2019): $55 Million**	**Submitted** a financial package to the 2013 legislative Assembly, through Governor Brown, requesting: • $13.95 million in lottery backed loans • $10.8 million in lottery backed grants • $3.1 million in GO loans • $3.1 million in private equity contribution (match) **Received** $7 million in grant funding and a GO bond authorization of $22 million for two projects	Received, through OWRD budget, extension of expenditure authority of $7 million in lottery backed grants. GO Bonds authorized in 2013 were not re-authorized in 2017	Requesting extension of expenditure authority, again, due to delays preventing the East Improvement District from meeting project completion requirements of the OWRD grant		A) Due to grant conditions placed on the project through a new "HB 3030 grant" the East Project ended up requiring a new Federal Section 10 permit from the Army Corps of Engineers. This lead to additional costs and delays but is now secured and the project is shovel ready pending final closing of a funding package with two banks B) East Improvement District and Stanfield Irrigation District have applied for a SB 839 grant through OWRD to try to back-fill over $3 million in grant funding needed to ensure the projects remain economically viable long-term and multiple land owners have access to the system (note: due to the debt load on these projects they are at the upper limit of viability)
Deliverable #1B: Secure Funding Package for Central (Ordnance) Region Project (proposed ownership by the Port of Umatilla as a member of the Columbia Development Authority) **Proposed Cost (2015): $13 Million** **Proposed Cost (2019): $+/- 16.9 Million (including**	**Submitted** a financial package to the 2013 Legislative Assembly, through Governor Brown, requesting: • $6.2 million in lottery backed loans • $3.9 million in lottery backed grants • $1.3 million in GO loans • $1.3 million in private equity contribution **Received** $4 million in grant funding and potentially some of the GO bond authorization mentioned above	Received, through OWRD budget, extension of expenditure authority of $4 million in lottery backed grants. Due to a lawsuit against the original district targeted to receive this funding in 2015, NOWA and the Port of Morrow re-routed this funding to the West Project to meet State expenditure timelines	$5 million in lottery and/or general fund backed grants to enable the following: • Backfill $4 million of capital construction dollars lost due to time constraints of 2015 funding authorization • Provide $1 million to conduct aquifer recharge testing using winter Columbia River water (using data developed with HB 3369 funding received in 2009)	Should recharge testing prove successful, the Basin may request additional testing funding (i.e. funding to store additional water) unless the Basin is in a position to cash flow recharge project on its own (i.e. 2 years of testing enables Basin to begin marketing stored water at a cost that is economical enough to attract customers)	A) The Central project remains the top flag ship project for our region as the project includes benefits to a water short irrigation district, winter aquifer recharge opportunities and industrial water supply opportunities on the Umatilla Chemical Depot upon successful land exchange from the Federal Government to a local IGA (the Columbia Development Authority)
Deliverable #1C: Secure Funding Package for West Regional Project (owned by the Columbia Improvement District) **Proposed Cost (2015): N/A (The Basin was told there would not be enough funding for all three projects in 2015)** **Final Cost (2019): $33 Million**	The west project was the project originally left out of the 2015 proposal due to funding constraints.		Requesting extension of expenditure authority, again, due to delays preventing the Columbia Improvement District from meeting project completion requirements of OWRD grant		A) The west project applied for a SB 839 grant in 2015 but was denied funding. The west continues to apply for SB 839 grant funding due to the cost difference and public to private funding ratio. A grant application is pending

Deliverable #1D: Support the Port of Umatilla in obtaining a funding package for improvements to Port of Umatilla/City of Hermiston Regional Water System (Needed for mitigated Columbia River water)	The City of Hermiston received $660K from Business Oregon and made necessary improvements to the Regional Water System by October of 2016				
Deliverable #1E: Secure 180 cfs, of 300 cfs, of Mitigated Columbia River water					
Step #2: Test groundwater savings and banking strategies, alluvial groundwater recharge where possible, and begin discussions regarding a permanent Columbia River Mitigation Program					
Deliverable #2A: Secure funding to save groundwater in state established Critical Groundwater Areas, and monitor the possibility of stabilizing and recovering regional aquifers naturally			**Requesting $1 million through HB 2377**	Potential request for additional state resources to continue or expand testing if program is yielding results but not yet able to be self-funded at the Basin level	1) The need for this funding is documented in a report from the Umatilla Basin Basalt Stabilization Work Group to the Governor dated 12-17-2018 2) All funding received by the State will be used to save groundwater. All administrative costs associated with rolling the program out will be covered through local sources 3) NOWA, through the Greater Eastern Development Cooperation, has secured a $50,000 grant to develop the legal documents to ensure saved groundwater is protected in the ground by the Oregon Water Resources Department
Deliverable #2B: Continue to assess groundwater storage, using winter Columbia River water, of the Ordnance Alluvial Aquifer			See Deliverable #1B Above	Potential request for additional state resources to continue testing if program is yielding results but not yet able to be self-funded	
Deliverable #2C: Form a committee to begin investigation a framework and goals for a permanent Columbia River mitigation program.					
Step #3: Use information gained from steps #1 and #2 above to inform total Columbia River water need to meet sustainability and climate change resilience goals of the Umatilla Basin and secure the water					
Deliverable #3A: Develop a permanent mitigation program and rules for securing water rights and mitigation in the Columbia River mainstem above John Day Dam			Supporting HCR 33 as we believe mitigation to be a topic of future statewide discussion		A) Deliverables 3A and 3B may include requests beyond the 2023 biennium. B) The timeline for working on a completing Deliverables 3A and 3B are variable and depend on which biennium Steps 1 and 2 begin (i.e. each biennium that Steps 1 and 2 are not funded or authorized delays work on Step #3 deliverables by a biennium)
Deliverable #3B: Source mitigation under and permanent mitigation program to meet identified need (note: may include mitigation projects such as those identified in the Columbia River-Umatilla Solutions Task Force Declaration of Cooperation			Supporting HCR 33 as we believe mitigation to be a topic of future statewide discussion		

Making a Case for State Memorialization of Place Based Implementation

- Where WA and OR are the same:
  - Both states encourage collaboration and have strong local collaborative planning efforts underway by region
  - Where WA and OR differ:
    - WA has legislated benchmarks to implement regional plans and has placed measurables on funding and implementation strategies that live beyond the current Governor and legislative body (OR has not)
    - WA, through legislation, has directed agencies other than Ecology (OR equivalent of DEQ and OWRD) to engage and be a part of the solution (OR has not)
    - WA has memorialized the capacity to leverage Federal Funding and coordinate use of non-federal match on projects to maximize federal and outside investment (OR has not)
    - WA is making measurable progress on natural resource related needs (both economic and environmental) in the Mid-Columbia (OR is not)

- In Summary, Washington has found a way to facilitate and regionalize place-based implementation, Oregon HAS NOT!!
- View: https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2019I1/Committees/HNR/2020-01-15-09-00/Agenda

Lack of Regionalization Has Prevented the Following (This is just a snippet)

Columbia River users in U. Basin

1) Remove POU boundaries from existing water rights and allow us to maximize water use of water State says we already divert to fix as many problems as we can
2) Let us use our conserved Columbia River water to replace groundwater pumping
3) Let us fund portions of upstream/tributary efficiency projects including fish screens and spawning/rearing improvement in exchange for mitigation credits on mainstem
4) Let us self-fund our groundwater program through a groundwater impact fee that all exempts, cities and others pay into
5) Let us work with Washington on the C. River Treaty and potential options that benefit Oregon and the whole system
6) Lets partner to test groundwater recharge and basalt groundwater savings. We will use our infrastructure and leave 100% of the water in the ground for testing if the state pays the pumping and monitoring costs during the test to better inform the public on true future sustainability benefits.
7) Hey, we have $100 million in non-federal match sitting here, want to leverage that for other projects

State NO and Why (humorous yet true)

1) No: that's enlargement and even though it will not injure other C. River folks or fish, if implemented elsewhere it will dewater rivers and injure others.
2) No: You shall put that 1 or 2 cfs back into a river flowing 200,000 cfs because under state law the water has to go back to the point of origin
3) No: It is bucket for bucket time and place and Oregon cannot guarantee protection of water in Idaho and Washington so don't try
4) No: All funding shall be leveraged by the state through state fees and shall go through the general fund. You cannot self assess and request funds go back to only your efforts
5) Sure, go ahead but a non-profit and a little basin without any state backing will get you nowhere (this is conjecture but it is truly basically what we feel)
6) There is a grant program for that… Oh wait, this type of test is not contemplated in any of our grant programs so you don't qualify.
7) Are you nuts, we need a 100 year water vision and more beauracracy to figure out how we take your investment to benefit other projects in our state for the betterment of fish, farms and families.

NORTHEAST OREGON WATER ASSOCIATION

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