

# Water Project Grants and Loans and Irrigation Modernization Funding Recommendations

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# Integrated Water Resources Strategy



**Flow Restoration**



**Pivots**



**Piping**



**New Wells**

## Recommended Action:

**13.E - Invest in Implementation of Water Resources Projects**

# Planning, Collaboration, & Investments

Builds partnerships and incentivizes Oregonians to pursue integrated and innovative solutions for complex water challenges and an uncertain water future.



Strategic  
Investments



Adaptive  
Planning



Cooperative  
Partnerships



Accessible  
Information



Effective  
Coordination

# Planning, Collaboration, & Investments



## Placed-Based Planning

Plan & identify actions



## Feasibility Study Grants

Investigate feasibility



## Water Project Grants & Loans

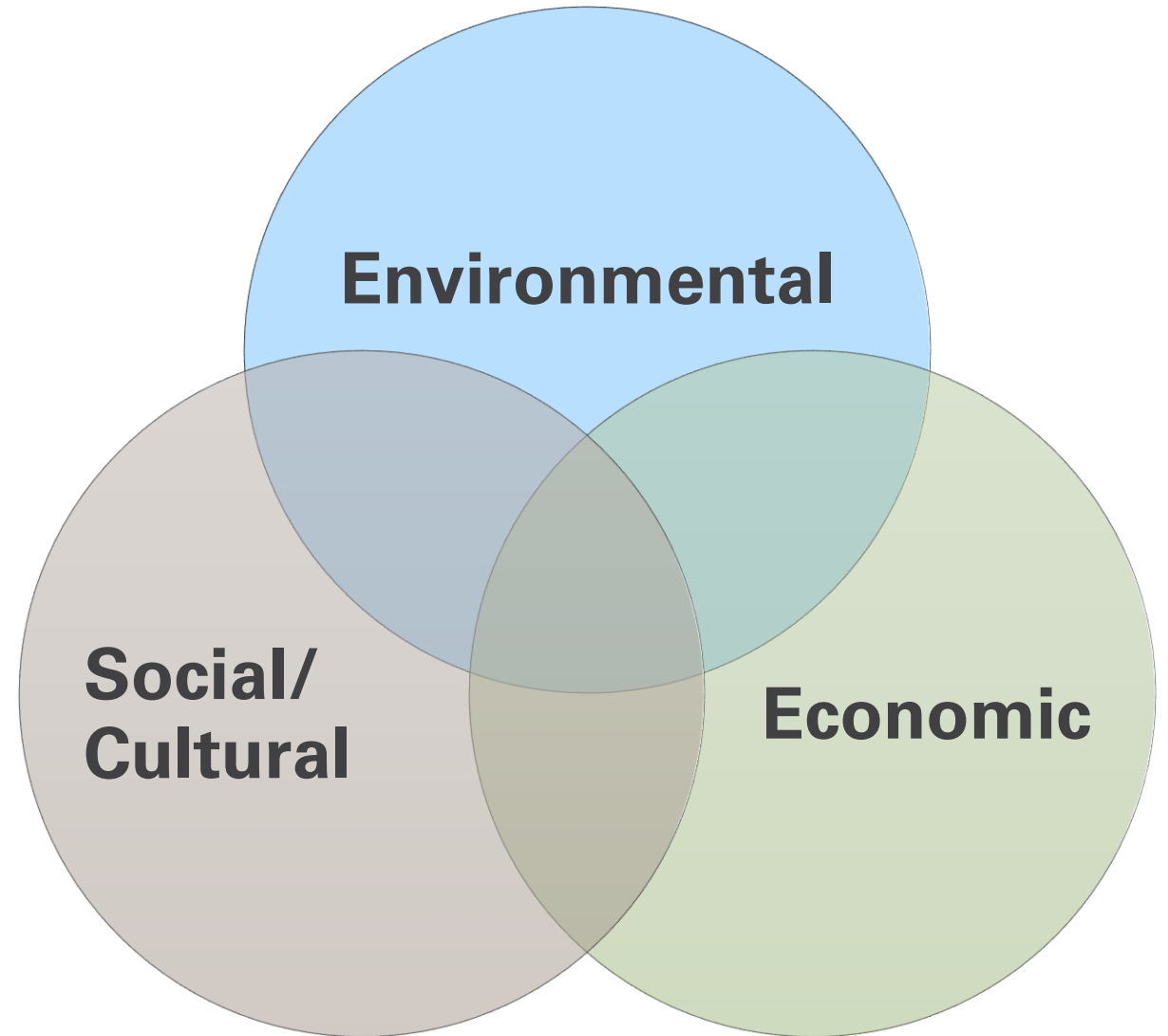
Implement

- Well Abandonment, Repair, and Replacement Fund
- Harney Domestic Well Remediation Fund
- Water Measurement Cost Share Program
- Irrigation Modernization Funding
- Direct Appropriations

# Water Project Grants and Loans

Provide funding for Water Supply projects that:

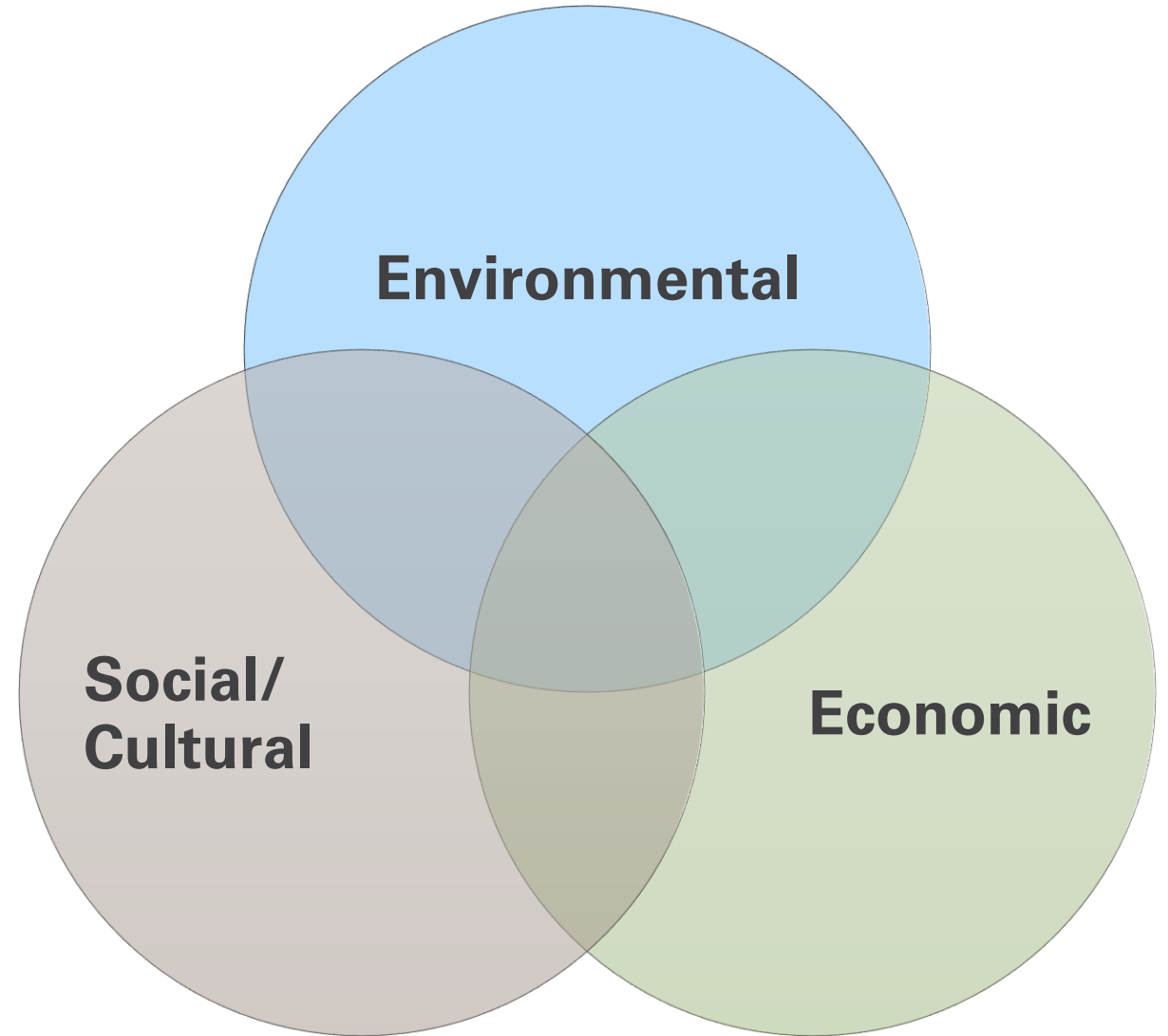
- Meet instream and out-of-stream needs and
- Achieve Public Benefits in three categories



# Irrigation Modernization Funding

Provide funding for  
Water Supply projects  
that:

- **Improve water use efficiency of irrigation systems on currently irrigated agricultural lands**
- **Achieve Public Benefits in three categories**



# Irrigation Modernization Funding History

- HB 5030 – \$50M to Water Supply Development Account to issue grants for Irrigation Modernization projects
- Provide **state match** needed to access federal funding available for irrigation modernization projects.
- Use **existing grant program (Water Project Grants and Loans)** for efficiency.

# Key Differences

## Water Project Grants and Loans

### Cost match requirement

- 25% required for grants
- In-kind or cash match

## Irrigation Modernization

### Must have specific Federal match:

- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Priority to projects that legally protect a portion of the conserved water instream commensurate with amount required under Allocation of Conserved Water program



# Funding Cycles and Availability

- WPGI and Irrigation Modernization funding cycles run concurrently for efficiency
- 2 funding cycles per year

## Fund Availability

Funding Program	Currently Available	March 2025 Bond Sale*
Water Project Grants & Loans	\$3,739,784	\$5M
Irrigation Modernization	\$0	\$20,572,051

*\*Funds must be spent within 3 years of bond sale*

# Review Process

OWRD reviews applications for eligibility and completeness

OWRD contacts affected Tribes

Public comment period on applications

Multi-agency Technical Review Team evaluates applications

Public comment period on funding recommendations

Commission awards funding

# 2024 Funding Cycle 2

Application deadline: July 10, 2024

	WPGL	Irrigation Modernization
Applications Received	7	1
Funding Requested	\$9,279,591	\$907,290
Funding Available*	\$8,739,784	\$20,572,051

*\*Some funding not currently available; will be available after March 2025 bond sale*

# Comments on Applications

- 60-day public comment period: July 25, 2024 – September 23, 2024
- No Tribal comments received
- Two public comments received:
  - Support for Twickenham Irrigation Efficiency project
  - Support for Winston Reservoir Replacement project

# Technical Review Team (TRT)



Meet to discuss applications

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Consider tribal and public comments

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Score applications based on public benefits

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Make funding recommendation

# TRT Scores Public Benefits



# WPGL Application Scoring

## Three categories of Public Benefits: Economic, Environmental, Social/Cultural

6 Questions in each public benefit category

72 Available points in each category

24 Potential preference points: legally protected streamflow & collaboration

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240 Total points available

# Irrigation Modernization Application Scoring

## Three categories of Public Benefits: Economic, Environmental, Social/Cultural

6 Questions in each public benefit category

72 Available points in each category

24 Potential preference points: legally protected streamflow & collaboration

10 Potential preference points: legally protected streamflow commensurate with amount required in ORS 537.470

**250 Total points available**



# Minimum Category Score

The Department set a minimum category score of "7" to be funded

A category score of "7" signals that the public benefits are more than "Minor"

Each category must meet the minimum score

# TRT Funding Recommendations

- TRT ranked projects by greatest public benefit score
- Generated TRT funding recommendation based on the:
  - Public benefit score, and
  - Available funding
- TRT recommends funding:
  - WPGI projects ranked #1 through #4
  - Irrigation Modernization project

# WPGL Projects Recommended by TRT

Rank	Project Name	Funding
1	Catherine Creek Elmer Dam Fish Passage and Flow Improvement	\$1,924,463
2	Bend Headworks Fish Screen Replacement*	\$1,971,924
3	Winston Reservoir Replacement*	\$3,700,000
4	Sweet Cron Irrigation Modernization Project*	\$535,868
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$8,132,255</b>

\* Provisionally recommended, contingent on spring 2025 lottery revenue bond sale

# WPGL Projects Not Recommended by TRT

Rank	Project Name	Funding
6	Harbor Water Collector Disaster Mitigation Project*	\$171,584
7	Twickenham Irrigation Efficiency	\$831,602
8	Southside Well Water Storage*	\$144,150
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,147,336</b>

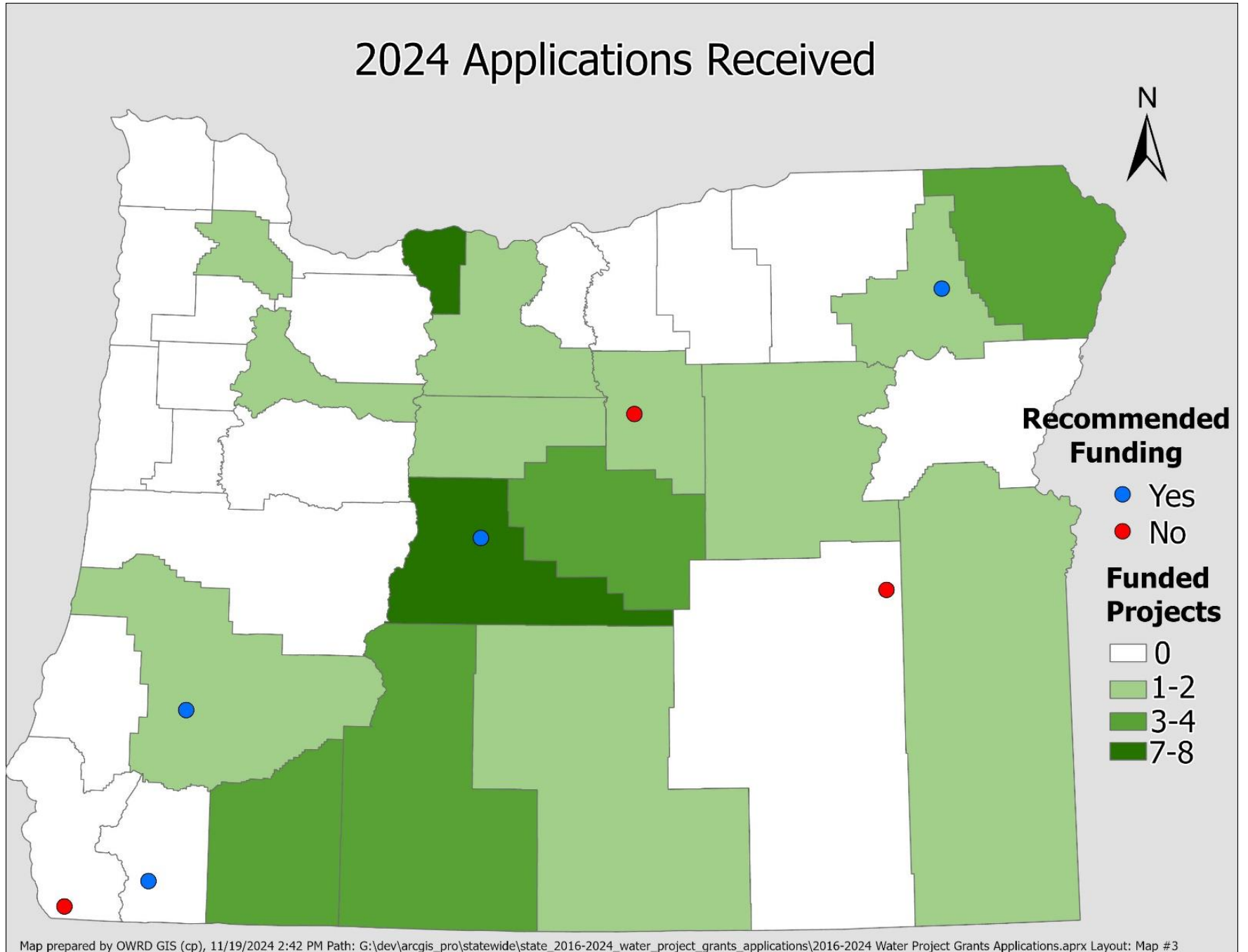
\* Did not meet the minimum score of seven in each public benefit category

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# 2024 Applications Received



# Irrigation Modernization Project Recommended by TRT

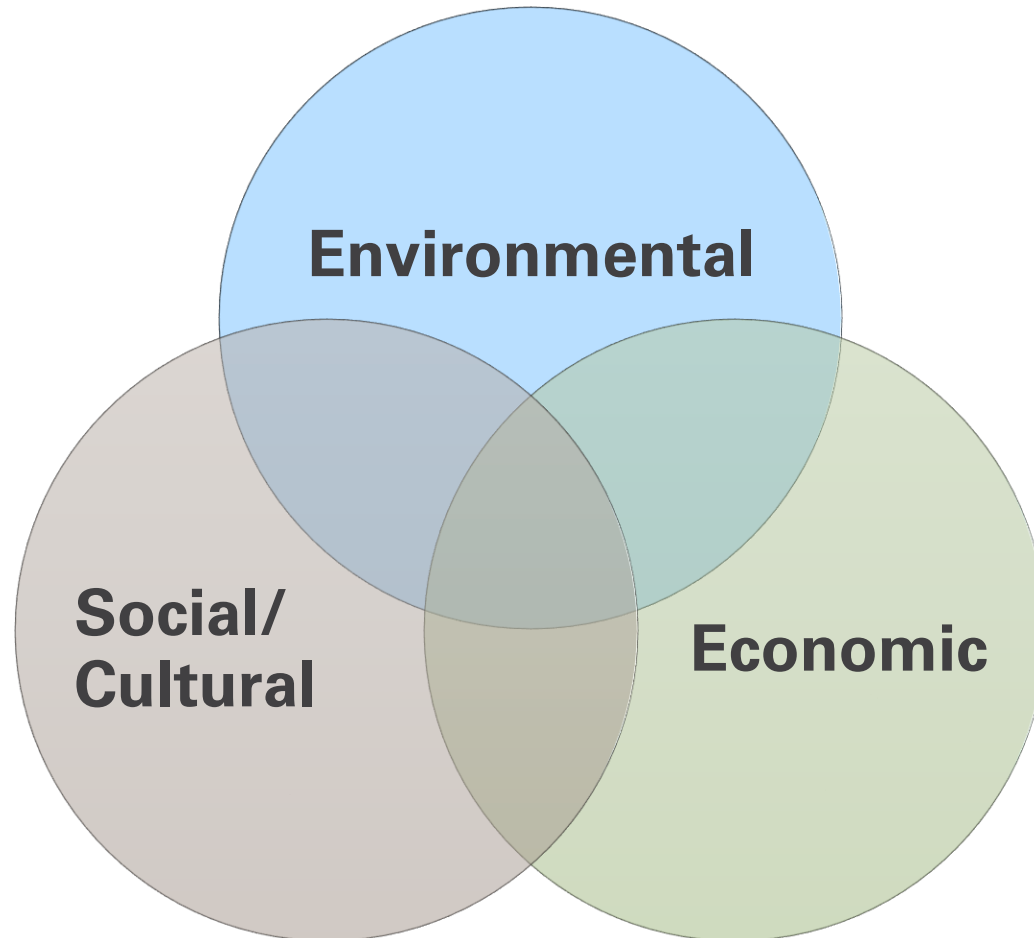
Rank	Project Name	Funding
1	Klamath Irrigation District A-3 Urban Canal Piping*	\$907,290
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$907,290</b>

\* Provisionally recommended, contingent on spring 2025 lottery revenue bond sale

# Comments on Funding Recommendations

- Public comment period October 25–November 15, 2024
- No Tribal comments received
- No public comments received

# Recommended for Funding





# Catherine Creek Elmer Dam Fish Passage and Flow Improvement

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Union Soil &amp; Water Conservation District</b>
<b>Funding Request</b>	<b>\$1,924,463</b>
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$7,267,790</b>
<b>County</b>	<b>Union</b>



# Catherine Creek Elmer Dam Fish Passage and Flow Improvement

## Project Highlights

- Improve the fishway and Elmer dam on Catherine Creek
- Make on-farm improvements to off-channel reservoirs and intakes
- Result in unimpeded fish passage and more natural hydrologic scenarios for all native fishes

Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown				Total
Econ	Env	Soc/Cultr	Other	
27	22	39	12	100

# Bend Headworks Fish Screen Replacement

**Applicant** North Unit Irrigation District

**Funding Request** \$1,971,924

**Total Cost** \$9,782,732

**County** Deschutes

Water  
Project  
Grant

# Bend Headworks Fish Screen Replacement

## Project Highlights

- Remove existing screens and other related components at the North Unit Irrigation District main canal intake on the mainstem of the Deschutes River
- Replace them with new screens and components in compliance with state and federal standards
- New fish screens to supply debris-free water to irrigators without harming aquatic life

Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown				Total
Econ	Env	Soc/Cultr	Other	
30	12	42	12	96

# Winston Reservoir Replacement

**Applicant** Winston-Dillard Water District

**Funding Request** \$3,700,000

**Total Cost** \$7,038,500

**County** Douglas



# Winston Reservoir Replacement

## Project Highlights

- Replace two existing water storage reservoirs that have a combined capacity of 1.5 million gallons with one welded steel tank reservoir that holds 2 million gallons
- Legally protect water instream through an above-ground storage release of up to 375 acre-feet of water to augment flows in the South Umpqua River

Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown				Total
Econ	Env	Soc/Cultr	Other	
33	16	31	12	92

# Sweet Cron Irrigation Modernization Project

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<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Illinois Valley Soil and Water Conservation District; Trout Unlimited</b>
<b>Funding Request</b>	<b>\$535,686</b>
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$669,890</b>
<b>County</b>	<b>Josephine</b>



# Sweet Cron Irrigation Modernization Project

## Project Highlights

- Convert from flood and drip irrigation to center pivot irrigation on 33.4 acres
- Goal to restore and maintain instream flow to benefit native fish populations and to provide an efficient water supply for irrigation
- Legally protect 100% of the conserved water instream (~0.14 cfs) through the OWRD's Allocation of Conserved Water program

## Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown

Econ	Env	Soc/Cultr	Other	Total
30	13	19	9	71



# Klamath Irrigation District A-3 Urban Canal Piping

**Applicant** Klamath Irrigation District

**Funding Request** \$907,290

**Total Cost** \$3,629,159

**County** Klamath

Irrigation  
Modern-  
ization

# Klamath Irrigation District A-3 Urban Canal Piping

## Project Highlights

- Install piping materials along 3 miles of A-3 Urban Canal
- Install an irrigation flow measurement device and automation to integrate with the District's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system
- Address invasive weed species
- Project anticipates conserving 1000- acre feet of water annually

## Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown

Econ	Env	Soc/Cultr	Other	Total
30	13	19	9	71

# Funding Award

The Commission shall make the final decision based on (ORS 541.673-677 and OAR 690-093-0100):

- Equal importance of each public benefit category
- Awards based on greatest public benefit
- Best achieve target outcomes (Funding projects of diverse sizes, types and geographic locations)
- Based on changes resulting from project

# Commission Alternatives:

## The Commission may consider the following:

1. Adopt the funding recommendation contained in Tables 2, 3, and 4 of this report to immediately fund one WPGI application (\$1,924,463), provisionally fund three WPGI applications (\$6,207,792) for a total WPGI award of \$8,132,255, and provisionally fund one Irrigation Modernization Funding application (\$907,290) for a total Irrigation Modernization Funding award of \$907,290.
2. Adopt a modified funding recommendation.
3. Direct the Department to further evaluate the applications and return with a revised recommendation.

# Recommendation

## The Director recommends Alternative #1

- 1. Adopt the funding recommendation contained in Tables 2, 3, and 4 of this report to immediately fund one WPGI application (\$1,924,463), provisionally fund three WPGI applications (\$6,207,792) for a total WPGI award of \$8,132,255, and provisionally fund one Irrigation Modernization Funding application (\$907,290) for a total Irrigation Modernization Funding award of \$907,290.**
2. Adopt a modified funding recommendation.
3. Direct the Department to further evaluate the applications and return with a revised recommendation.

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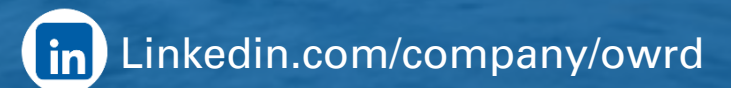
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# Thank you!

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971-301-0718



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# Additional slides if needed

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# Harbor Water Collector Disaster Mitigation Project

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**Applicant** Harbor Water People's Utility District

**Funding Request** \$171,584

**Total Cost** \$1,715,838

**County** Curry

Water  
Project  
Grant

# Harbor Water Collector Disaster Mitigation Project

## Project Highlights

- Protect a drinking water intake supplying water to approximately 4,300 customers on the South Bank of the mouth of the Chetco River
- Place 6-foot-deep layer of armoring riprap and barriers of submerged Douglas fir logs with attached root wads around the base of the Ranney Collector

Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown				Total
Econ	Env	Soc/Cultr	Other	
27	5	25	3	59

# Twickenham Irrigation Efficiency

**Applicant**                      **Gabe Williams**

**Funding Request**              \$831,602

**Total Cost**                      \$1,674,206

**County**                              Wheeler



# Twickenham Irrigation Efficiency

## Project Highlights

- Consolidate pumps and upgrade pumps, replace mainline system, upgrade existing pivots, reduce and/or replace handline and solid-set irrigation systems with pivots, apply activated biochar to the fields
- Legally protect 50% of the conserved water instream in the John Day River (approx. 0.75 cfs) through the OWRD's Allocation of Conserved Water program

Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown				Total
Econ	Env	Soc/Cultr	Other	
23	11	12	4	50

# Southside Well Water Storage

**Applicant** Harney Soil and Water Conservation District

**Funding Request** \$144,150

**Total Cost** \$188,150

**County** Harney



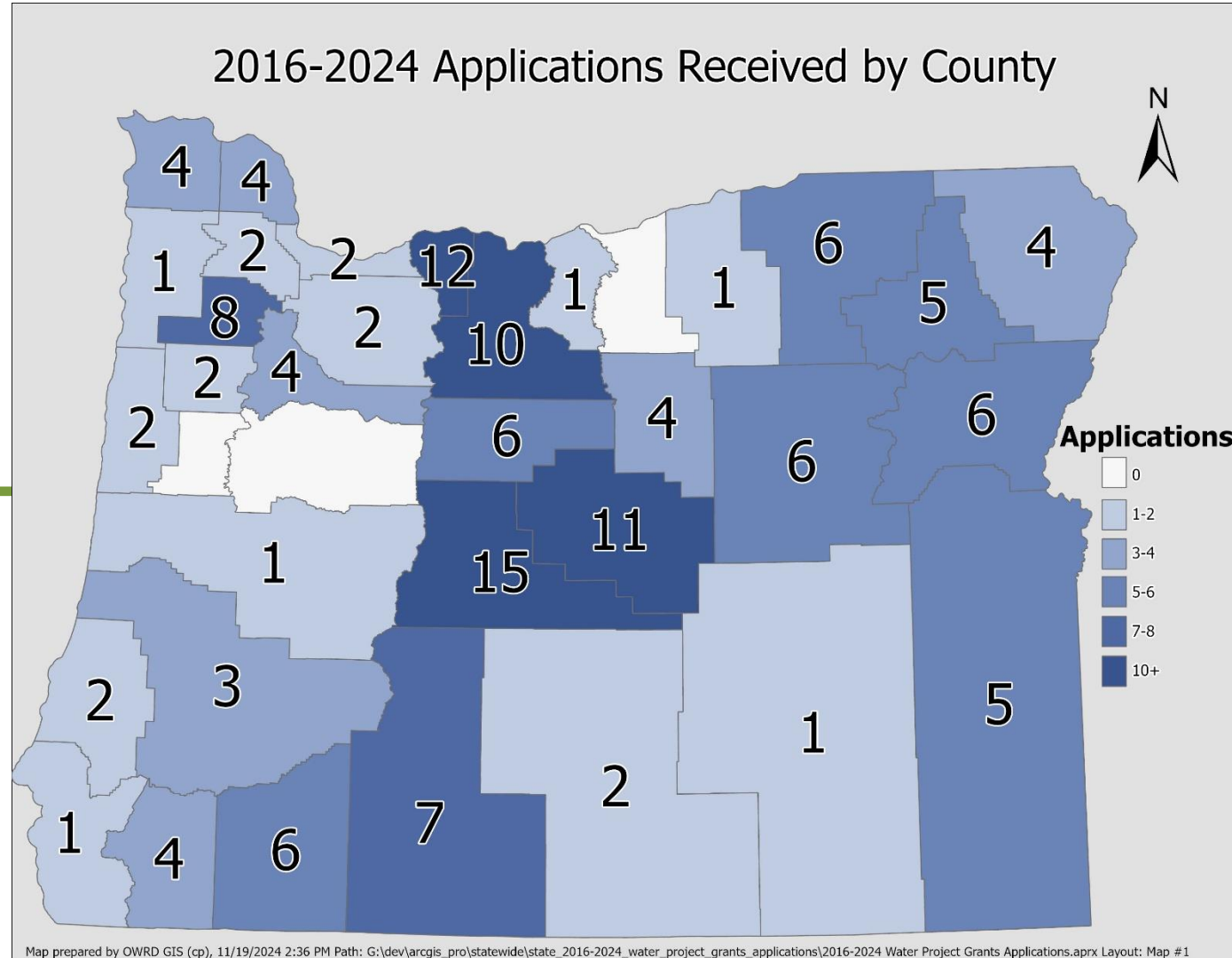
# Southside Well Water Storage

## Project Highlights

- Project goal is to irrigate hay fields during hot months when water is limited from the Malheur River
- Install a submersible pump into a well that would pump water to a new storage reservoir
- Install a pipeline to supply water to and from the reservoir to the point of use for irrigation

Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown				Total
Econ	Env	Soc/Cultr	Other	
4	-1	2	0	5

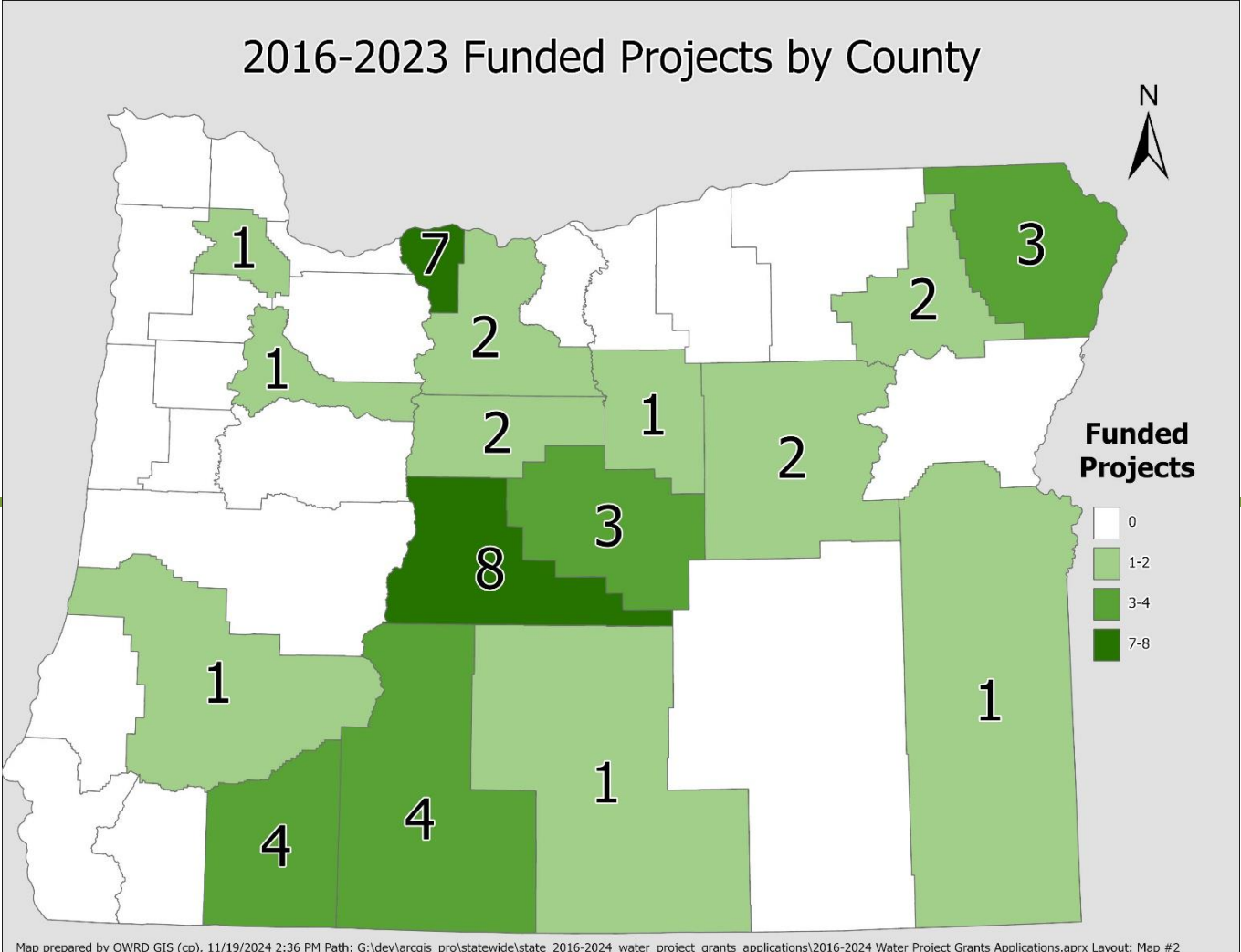
# 2016-2024 Applications Received by County



Map prepared by OWRD GIS (cp), 11/19/2024 2:36 PM Path: G:\dev\arcgis\_pro\statewide\state\_2016-2024\_water\_project\_grants\_applications\2016-2024 Water Project Grants Applications.aprx Layout: Map #1



# 2016-2023 Funded Projects by County



Map prepared by OWRD GIS (cp), 11/19/2024 2:36 PM Path: G:\dev\arcgis\_pro\statewide\state\_2016-2024\_water\_project\_grants\_applications\2016-2024 Water Project Grants Applications.aprx Layout: Map #2