



Irrigation Modernization Funding Applications

Project Summaries – 2025 Funding Cycle 1

January 30, 2025

Background

The Water Supply Development Account provides grants and loans for water projects that have economic, environmental and social/cultural benefits (ORS 541.651-696). In 2023, the Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 5030, providing \$50 million to the Water Supply Development Account to issue grants for irrigation modernization projects and \$10 million for Water Project Grants and Loans. The 2025 application deadline was January 15, 2025. The Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) received four complete applications requesting a total of \$16,191,372 in grant funding for irrigation modernization projects. OWRD did not solicit Water Project Grants and Loans applications due to insufficient funds.

Document Description

The following are project summaries for complete grant applications received by January 15, 2025 for the 2025 Irrigation Modernization Funding cycle. The project summaries are adapted from submitted project applications. The application summaries are listed in alphabetical order by project name and page numbers listed below.

Next Steps

OWRD is soliciting public comment on the Irrigation Modernization Funding applications through 5 pm on March 31, 2025. Information on how to submit a public comment is available on the [website](#). Public comments submitted on applications will be considered by the Technical Review Team (TRT). The TRT will evaluate applications and make a funding recommendation to the Water Resources Commission. OWRD will post the TRT funding recommendation for an additional public comment period. The tentative date for the Commission to make its funding decision is June 12-13, 2025.

More Information

If you have questions please contact the Grant Analyst, Louisa Mariki, at 503-979-960 or OWRD.Grants@water.oregon.gov.

List of Applications Received

Project Name	Applicant	County	Grant Funds Requested	Total Project Cost
East Fork Piping Project	East Fork Irrigation District	Hood River	\$4,942,925	\$18,748,700
Eastside Canal Piping Project Phase 1	Talent Irrigation District	Jackson	\$3,991,000	\$4,991,000
North Unit Irrigation District Irrigation Modernization and Winter Flow Augmentation Project – Lateral 43, Segment 3	North Unit Irrigation District	Jefferson	\$2,987,447	\$11,969,550
Klamath Irrigation District D-System Laterals Project	Klamath Irrigation District	Klamath	\$4,270,000	\$19,581,000
		Total	\$16,191,372	\$55,290,250

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East Fork Piping Project

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: East Fork Irrigation District

County: Hood River

Funding Requested: \$4,942,925

Total Project Cost: \$18,748,700

Project Summary: The primary goals of the project are to increase the long-term reliability and efficiency of irrigation water supply, increase summer stream flows for threatened salmon and Steelhead, and improve water quality. To achieve these goals, the project would replace approximately 12 miles of failing, leaky pipe (primarily wood and unreinforced concrete) with new high-density polyethylene pipe; pipe approximately 5 miles of open canal; eliminate an estimated 23 end spills; eliminate open water boxes; and add pressure reducing valves and turnouts for patrons. The project would save an estimated 3.2 cubic feet per second (cfs) of water. The applicant would legally protect 75 percent (approximately 2.4 cfs) of the conserved water instream in the East Fork Hood River through the Department's Allocation of Conserved Water program. Twenty-five percent (approximately 0.8 cfs) of the conserved water would be used by the applicant to improve water supply reliability for irrigators.

Eastside Canal Piping Project Phase 1

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Talent Irrigation District

County: Jackson

Funding Requested: \$3,991,000

Total Project Cost: \$4,991,000

Project Summary: The goal of the proposed project is to improve water management within the Talent Irrigation District to benefit agricultural producers and overall Rogue Basin water supplies. To achieve this goal, the project would convert the first 4,363 feet of the open earthen Eastside Canal into 72-inch diameter pipe. The project would: (1) save approximately 437.6 acre-feet per year by eliminating water lost from seepage and evaporation; (2) improve water delivery reliability and irrigation water quality for agricultural producers within the District and for downstream irrigation districts; (3) retain more water in Emigrant Lake, extending the District's irrigation season during drought; (4) reduce operations and maintenance costs for the District; and (5) contribute 25 percent of the water savings instream in Emigrant Creek to improve water quality and the recovery of the federally listed Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast coho salmon in the Bear Creek watershed.

North Unit Irrigation District Irrigation Modernization and Winter Flow Augmentation Project – Lateral 43, Segment 3

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: North Unit Irrigation District

County: Jefferson

Funding Requested: \$2,987,447

Total Project Cost: \$11,969,550

Project Summary: The proposed project would enclose a portion of Lateral 43, a 7.3-mile open, porous irrigation canal into leak-free HDPE piping to conserve approximately 5.3 cubic-feet-per-second of water previously lost to seepage according to the District's System Improvement Plan. The District would release an equivalent amount of the conserved water saved during the winter season in Upper Deschutes River protected from Wickiup Dam to Lake Billy Chinook via a secondary use right for flow augmentation. The water conservation achieved by this project would: (1) eliminate water delivery and operations inefficiencies; (2) improve water quality; (3) improve and stabilize agricultural production through water supply reliability; and (4) improve conditions for Endangered Species Act-listed species including the Oregon spotted frog.

Klamath Irrigation District D-System Laterals Project

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Klamath Irrigation District

County: Klamath

Funding Requested: \$4,270,000

Total Project Cost: \$19,581,000

Project Summary: The goal of the proposed project is to improve water management within the Klamath Irrigation District to benefit agricultural producers, native endangered fish species, and overall Klamath Basin water supplies. To achieve this goal, the project would replace 11.4 miles of open earthen channels with gravity-fed pipelines and line 1.1 miles of the District's D-System. The project would: (1) improve water delivery reliability for agricultural producers within the District and downstream irrigation districts; (2) save approximately 4,021 acre-feet per year by eliminating water lost to seepage and evaporation; (3) retain more water in Upper Klamath Lake later in the summer, supporting resident fish species; (4) reduce demand for supplemental inputs from the Lost River; (5) reduce pumping costs for adjacent districts due to decreased spill; and (6) improve irrigation water quality for agricultural use.