



Cindy Thieman <cindy@hoodriverswcd.org>

9:09 AM (3 hours ago)

to karen.m.quigley

Dear Karen

I am helping to develop four water conservation and development proposals for the Hood River Watershed. These proposals will be submitted to Oregon Water Resources Department for their Water Supply Development grant offering. These projects will positively affect instream water levels and water availability for irrigation in the Hood River Watershed. One of our regular watershed partners is the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs. They are aware of all of these proposals. Could you tell me if there are any other tribes that may be affected or should be contacted about our proposals? Thank you!

Sincerely,

Cindy Thieman, Coordinator
Hood River Watershed Group
3007 Experiment Station Rd.
Hood River, OR 97031

Phone: [541-386-6063](tel:541-386-6063)

Email: cindy@hoodriverswcd.org



Quigley Karen M 11:45 AM (32 minutes ago)

to Cindy

Hello Cindy,

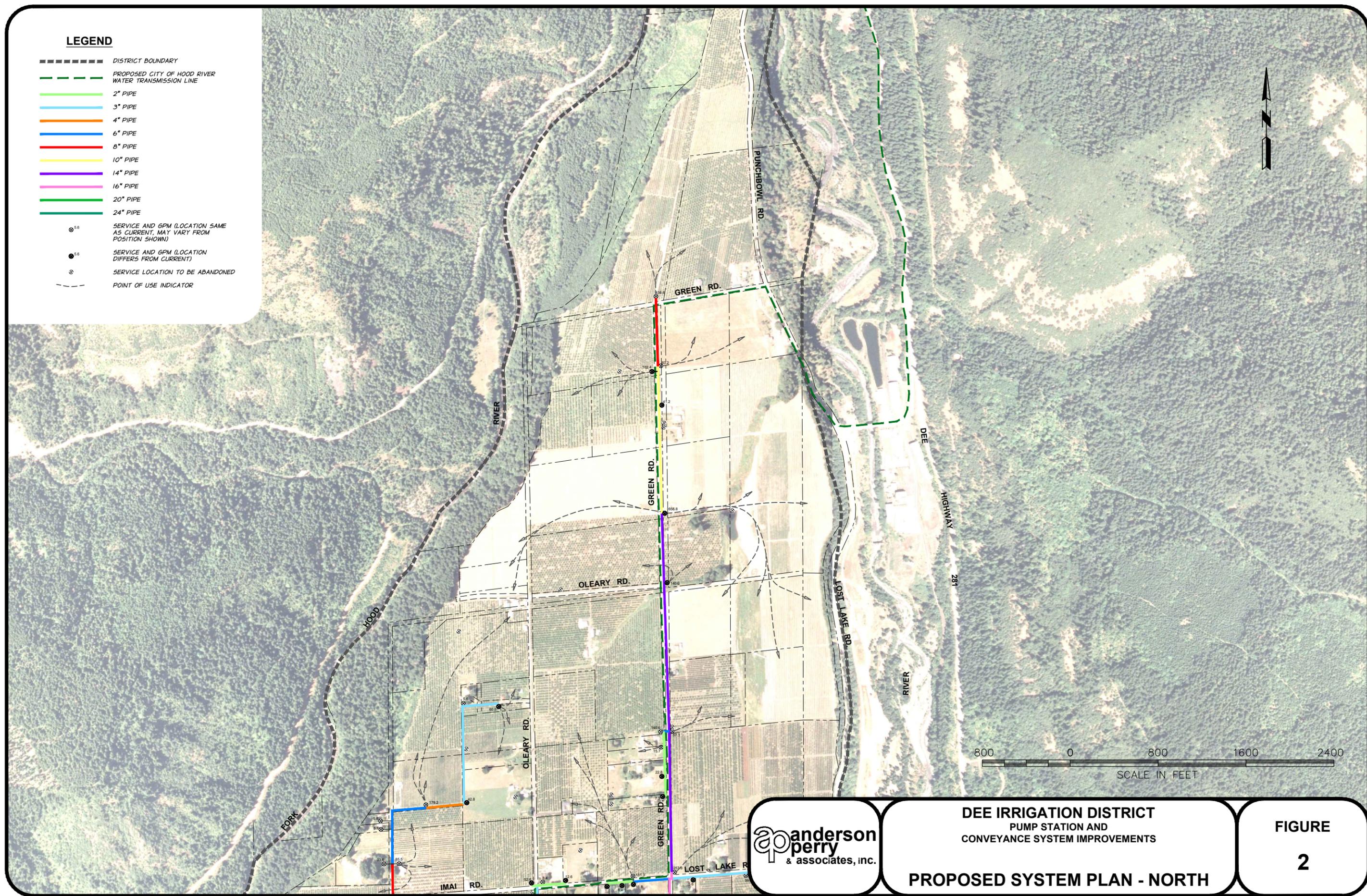
I suggest you also notify the following OR Tribes in addition to Warm Springs: Siletz and Grand Ronde. If any potential impact or proximity to Columbia River, you might consider touching base with Umatilla and the other two Columbia River treaty Tribes (for potential impact on treaty fishery resources)... Yakama and Nez Perce (ID)

Thanks,
Karen

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE DROID

LEGEND

- DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- - - PROPOSED CITY OF HOOD RIVER WATER TRANSMISSION LINE
- 2" PIPE
- 3" PIPE
- 4" PIPE
- 6" PIPE
- 8" PIPE
- 10" PIPE
- 14" PIPE
- 16" PIPE
- 20" PIPE
- 24" PIPE
- ⊗ SERVICE AND GPM (LOCATION SAME AS CURRENT, MAY VARY FROM POSITION SHOWN)
- SERVICE AND GPM (LOCATION DIFFERS FROM CURRENT)
- ⊗ SERVICE LOCATION TO BE ABANDONED
- - - POINT OF USE INDICATOR

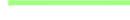


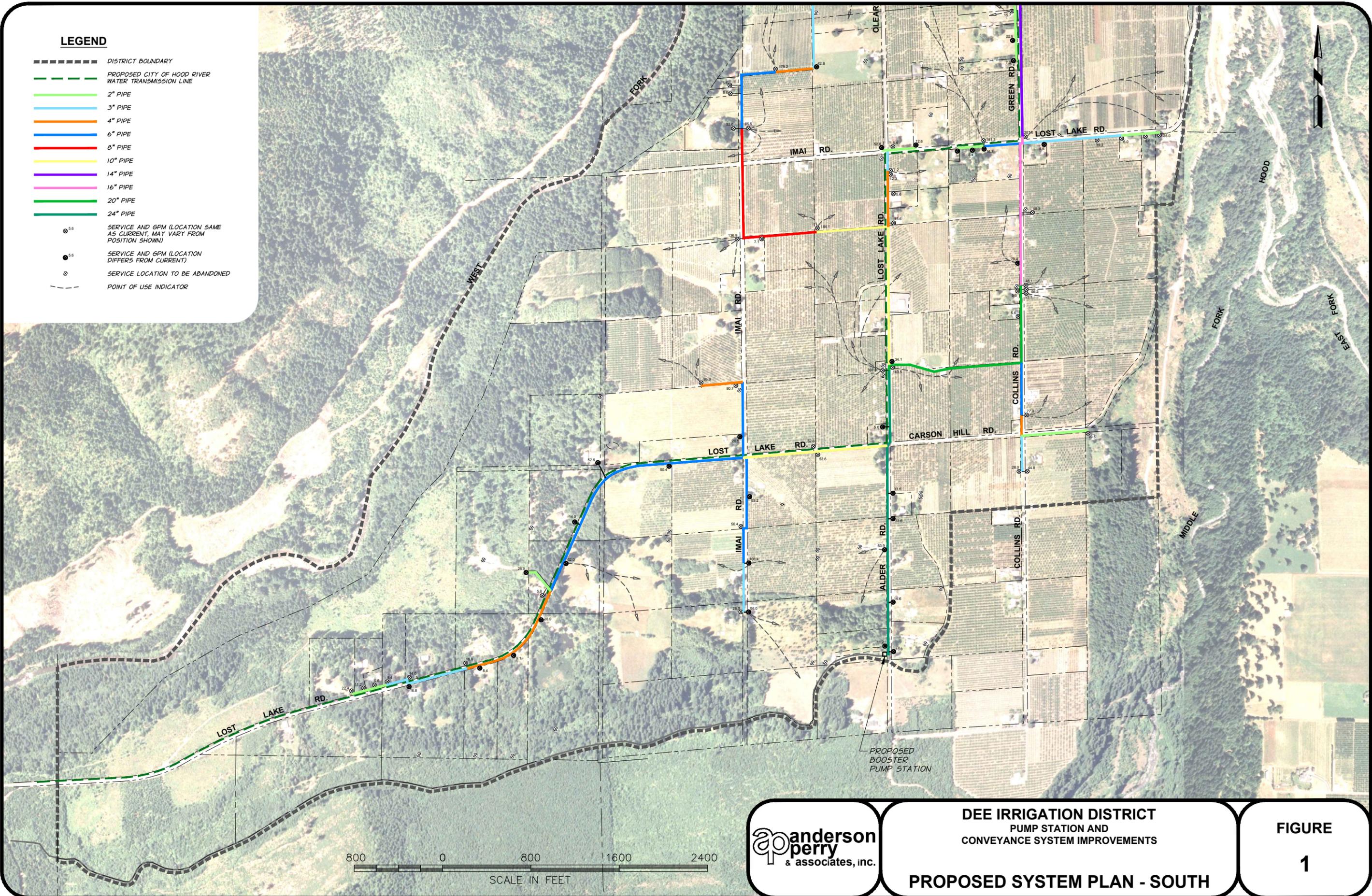
**DEE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
PUMP STATION AND
CONVEYANCE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

PROPOSED SYSTEM PLAN - NORTH

**FIGURE
2**

LEGEND

-  DISTRICT BOUNDARY
-  PROPOSED CITY OF HOOD RIVER WATER TRANSMISSION LINE
-  2" PIPE
-  3" PIPE
-  4" PIPE
-  6" PIPE
-  8" PIPE
-  10" PIPE
-  14" PIPE
-  16" PIPE
-  20" PIPE
-  24" PIPE
-  SERVICE AND GPM (LOCATION SAME AS CURRENT, MAY VARY FROM POSITION SHOWN)
-  SERVICE AND GPM (LOCATION DIFFERS FROM CURRENT)
-  SERVICE LOCATION TO BE ABANDONED
-  POINT OF USE INDICATOR



DEE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
 PUMP STATION AND
 CONVEYANCE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

PROPOSED SYSTEM PLAN - SOUTH

FIGURE
1

**DEE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATE
PUMP STATION AND CONVEYANCE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS
(YEAR 2016 COSTS)
JANUARY 2016**

| | Material Cost | Labor Cost | Total |
|--|---------------|------------|------------|
| Pump Station for Pressurization: | | | |
| Construction Cost for Pump Station | \$ 275,000 | \$ 246,000 | \$ 521,000 |
| Construction Contingency | 55,000 | 48,000 | 103,000 |
| Topographic Survey | | | 3,600 |
| Pump Station Design Engineering | | | 46,000 |
| Conveyance System Improvements: | | | |
| Construction Cost for Conveyance System | 900,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,900,000 |
| Construction Contingency | 180,000 | 200,000 | 380,000 |
| Topographic Survey (using available Lidar) | | | 25,000 |
| Conveyance System Design Engineering | | | 135,000 |
| Total Project: | | | |
| Construction | 1,175,000 | 1,246,000 | 2,421,000 |
| Construction Contingency | 235,000 | 248,000 | 483,000 |
| Survey using Lidar | | | 28,600 |
| Design Engineering | | | 181,000 |
| | | Total \$ | 3,113,600 |

DID

Township Range Section

Parcel

T1N R9E S1

600

1400

T1N R9E S12

300

201

200

500

600

700

800

900

1000

1002

1003

1001

1100

1400

1500

1701

1700

1600

2900

3000

2600

2700

2500

2800

2801

4100

3100

3200

3300

3400

4000

3500

3600

3700

3800

3900

2301

2300

2400

1800

2200

2201

1800

T1N R9E S13

1900
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2012
2101
5700
5501
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1300
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1401
2700
2800
2200
400
200
600
800
900
901
600

T1N R9E S14

T1N R10E S7

T1N R10E S18



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Fish and Wildlife

The Dalles District Office
3701 West 13th Street
The Dalles OR 97058
541-296-4628
(fax) 541-298-4993



January 14, 2016

Jon Unger
Oregon Water Resources Department
Water Resources Grant Administrator
725 Summer St. NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for Dee Irrigation Water Conservation and Development Project

Dear Mr. Unger:

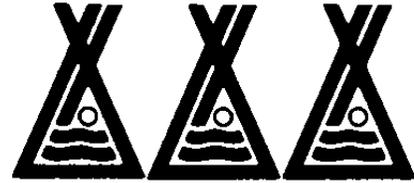
The purpose of this letter is to provide the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's (ODFW) support for the Dee Irrigation District's (DID) Irrigation Water Conservation and Development Project. This project proposes installation of a pressurized distribution pipe, a central pump system, on farm micro-sprinklers, soil moisture sensors, and flow meters. This project will improve irrigation delivery, and on farm irrigation management, which ultimately will allow DID to save water instream through these efficiencies.

The West Fork of the Hood River provides critical habitat for steelhead, Chinook salmon, and coho salmon, which are listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. The West Fork Hood River also provides habitat for other gamefish such as cutthroat trout. Diminished streamflow has been identified as a key limiting factor in the recovery of ESA fish throughout the Hood River Basin. Irrigation withdrawals for agriculture have been identified as the main contributing factor to summer low flows. Through the implementation of this proposed project, the DID has estimated approximately 2 to 3 (cfs) would be saved instream, which is approximately an 5-10% increase in late summer flows.

Implementation of this project has potential to provide substantial benefits to fisheries resources in the West Fork Hood River. The DID has a proven track record of implementing projects that have natural resources benefits in the Hood Basin. In fact, the district recently replaced its mainline canal with pipe, and dedicated 3 (cfs) to instream flow. The ODFW supports this proposal, and urges the Oregon Water Resources to consider this project for grant funding. If you have further questions concerning ODFW's support for this project feel free to contact me at (541) 296-4628.

Sincerely,

Rod A. French
Mid-Columbia District Fish Biologist



THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE WARM SPRINGS RESERVATION OF OREGON

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Hood River Production Program
6030 Dee Hwy. Parkdale, Oregon
Phone (541) 352-3548
Fax (541) 352-9365

January 11, 2016

Oregon Water Resources Department
Attn. Jon Unger
725 Summer St. NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR DID WATER CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Dear OWRD,

The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Hood River Production Program (CTWS) strongly encourages the OWRD to consider this application for funding.

This project will conserve water by replacing the existing Dee Irrigation District (DID) distribution system with new pipe. The CTWS has worked successfully with the DID on water conservation and fish passage in the West Fork Hood River watershed for many years. In 2010, the CTWS completed preliminary designs for this project and, in 2013, piped the 4.5 mile long DID main canal. As a result, the DID graciously agreed to allocate 100% of the water savings (3 cfs) to an instream water right for the West Fork. An additional estimated 2 cfs will be conserved by this project through elimination of overflows and open canal leakage. This water conservation will help support production of spring Chinook, a fish of cultural significance to the tribes and a focus of tribal harvest in the West Fork.

Since the early 1990's the CTWS has worked collaboratively with local stakeholders in the Hood River valley to seek solutions to restoring basin salmon and steelhead runs while maintaining community economies. By working together we are making strong headway in restoring salmon runs upon which the tribe's way of life is critically linked. Funds from this grant will greatly assist with efforts towards to these ends.

Sincerely,

CHRIS BRUN
Hood River Production Program

HOOD RIVER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



DAVID MERIWETHER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

601 State Street • Hood River, OR 97031 • (541) 386-3970 • FAX (541) 386-9392

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RON RIVERS - CHAIR
KAREN JOPLIN - DISTRICT NO. 1
MAUI MEYER - DISTRICT NO. 2
BOB BENTON - DISTRICT NO. 3
LES PERKINS - DISTRICT NO. 4

January 15, 2016

Oregon Water Resources Department
Attention: Jonathan Unger
725 Summer St. NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301

Re. **Water Supply Development Account Grant Applications**- Coe Branch Pipeline & On-farm Irrigation Upgrade Project, Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project, Highline Canal Pipeline Project, and Kingsley Reservoir Expansion and Green Point Pipeline Project

Dear Mr. Unger:

The Hood River Board of County Commissioners strongly supports the grant proposals being submitted for water conservation and development by the Middle Fork Irrigation District (MFID), Dee Irrigation District (DID), East Fork Irrigation District (EFID), and Farmers Irrigation District (FID). These projects are the result of several years of basin-wide assessment and planning that culminated in several documents, including the MFID Fish Management Plan (2010), Hood River Basin Study (2015), and the Hood River Water Conservation Strategy (2015). All of these proposals will ultimately lead to increased water conservation instream and greater water resource reliability for the Basin's agricultural producers. With one-third of County incomes and over \$100 million in annual gross sales coming from agriculture, it is critical that we find long-term solutions to provide reliable water into the future. The Board also recognizes the importance of improving instream flows to support threatened native fish populations, tribal fishing rights, and recreation.

The Coe Branch Pipeline and On-farm Irrigation Project will direct water diverted at Coe Branch to MFID's existing settling pond before being delivered to patrons. MFID's settling pond removes a significant amount of sediment, which will encourage and enable more of its patrons to use high efficiency irrigation equipment. The pipeline project will be complemented by 200 acres of on-farm irrigation upgrades in the MFID, which will save an estimated 1 cfs.

The Dee Irrigation Water Conservation and Delivery Project and the Highline Canal Pipeline Project (EFID) will replace open canals and old, unpressurized pipes with pressurized delivery pipelines. Collectively, this will eliminate canal seepage loss and eight end spills, and save almost 3 cfs. Eight DID patrons will upgrade their on-farm irrigation equipment, which will conserve an additional 0.7 cfs.

The Kingsley Reservoir Expansion and Green Point Pipeline projects will increase water storage and conservation in the Farmers Irrigation District. The expansion of Kingsley Reservoir by 500 acre-feet will allow FID to store enough water to reliably meet the needs of their growers as well as the operational

A Small County with a big mission:
Providing Quality of Life for all.

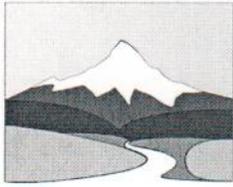
flexibility to leave more water in-stream during critical times of the year. The project will also allow FID to make sorely needed dam safety improvements for greater resiliency and reliability. The reservoir expansion will require extensive coordination with Hood River County in order to acquire the land necessary for the expansion. FID is currently working with Hood River County Forestry, Planning, and Parks Departments to determine the best path forward. The Green Point Pipeline Project will replace approximately 11,500 feet of aging and damaged steel pipeline that is currently leaking in multiple locations. This project will conserve roughly 2.5 to 3 cfs which will allow FID to reduce their diversion rate from North Green Point Creek while improving water resource reliability for the growers within FID.

The Hood River Basin has a very long history of collaboratively working to address potentially conflicting water use demands for fish, farms, and people. Water plays a central role in the cultural, economic, and social history and values of Hood River County. Finding ways to allow for equitable use of our valuable water resources is essential to the continued success of the communities within Hood River County. The proposed projects are critical for continuing to support environmental, agricultural, and community investments already made, and will perpetuate and enhance our collaborative, progressive, basin-wide approach to solving water resource issues and concerns.

Sincerely,
Hood River County
Board of Commissioners

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Rivers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ron Rivers, Chair



Hood River Watershed Group

3007 Experiment Station Dr., Hood River, OR 97031 • www.hoodriverswcd.org

January 18, 2016

Oregon Water Resources Department
Attention: Jonathan Unger
725 Summer St. NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301

Re. **Water Supply Development Account Grant Applications**- Coe Branch Pipeline & On-farm Irrigation Efficiency Project, Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project, Highline Lateral Pipeline Project, and Farmers Irrigation District Reservoir Expansion and Pipeline Project

Dear Mr. Unger:

The Hood River Watershed Group (HRWG) strongly supports the grant proposals being submitted for water conservation and development by the Middle Fork Irrigation District (MFID), Dee Irrigation District, East Fork Irrigation District (EFID), and Farmers Irrigation District (FID). The HRWG's purpose is to sustain and improve the Hood River Watershed through education, cooperation and stewardship. All of these projects will ultimately lead to increased water conservation instream to support threatened native fish populations, while providing greater water resource reliability for the Basin's agricultural producers, tribal fisherman, and recreationalists.

These projects are the result of several years of basin-wide planning that culminated in several documents, including the MFID Fish Management Plan (2010), Hood River Basin Study (2015), EFID System Improvement Plan (2015), FID Storage Expansion Study (2015), and the Hood River Water Conservation Strategy (2016, pending). The two most important project types identified in the Water Conservation Strategy were conveyance system improvements and on-farm irrigation efficiency projects, both for their significant overall impact and cost effectiveness. Storage expansion projects also provide an excellent opportunity to increase irrigation water reliability. Collectively, all remaining conveyance system improvements, on-farm irrigation upgrades, and expansion of existing storage have the potential to increase streamflows by an estimated 57 cfs. Our objective is to increase instream flow by *at least* 57 cfs at the mouth of the Hood River within the next 20 years. To attain this, watershed partners need to implement large-scale projects every year. The suite of projects being proposed in the Hood River Basin represent our first collective effort to pursue this critical objective.

Fish populations, the local economy, and social equity are inextricably linked in the Hood River Basin. From an ecological standpoint, if instream flows are insufficient, Hood River salmon and steelhead will not recover to self-sustaining levels. From an economic standpoint, a certain amount of water is required to sustain existing agricultural production. Furthermore, from a cultural and societal perspective, healthy fish runs benefit local tribes, tourism, and recreation, as well as heading off costly conflicts over water allocations. We strongly urge you to fund all of these broadly supported, highly effective projects that will keep fish and people on a positive, synergistic trajectory.

Sincerely,

Cindy Thieman
Hood River Watershed Group Coordinator

January 5, 2016

Oregon Water Resources Department
Attention: Jonathan Unger
725 Summer St. NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301

Re. **Water Supply Development Account Grant Application** - Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project

Dear Mr. Unger:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project grant proposal being submitted by the Dee Irrigation District (DID). The Dee Irrigation Water Conservation and Delivery Project will replace open canals and old, unpressurized pipes with pressurized delivery pipelines. Collectively, this project will eliminate seepage loss and six end spills, and save approximately 2 cfs.

I am an orchardist in Dee Flat and still using a conventional high-flow sprinkler irrigation system. I receive my irrigation water from DID. To complement the proposed project, I plan to upgrade the irrigation system on approximately 12.4 acres of orchard land that I manage in the next 1-3 years, either with my own funds or with cost share assistance from NRCS or another grant program. Given labor, equipment and materials, I estimate the total cost of this on-farm irrigation system upgrade to be valued at approximately \$19,280.

In addition to increasing efficiency and decreasing my demand for water from the West Fork of the Hood River, replacing my existing system with a micro-sprinkler or low-flow irrigation system will reduce the potential for the other negative effects of over watering. Surface run-off, erosion, loss of topsoil, and nutrient leaching will be reduced which will minimize the existing threats to the East and West Forks of the Hood River. Collectively, the Dee growers who will be upgrading their on-farm irrigation systems will save an estimated 0.7 cfs.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,



Shae Baker
General Manager
David Evans Farming, Inc.
Db a Heirloom Orchards

January 5, 2016

Oregon Water Resources Department
Attention: Jonathan Unger
725 Summer St. NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301

Re. **Water Supply Development Account Grant Application** - Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project

Dear Mr. Unger:

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I am an orchardist in Dee Flat and still using a conventional high-flow sprinkler irrigation system. I receive my irrigation water from DID. To complement the proposed project, I plan to upgrade the irrigation system on approximately 22 acres of orchard land that I manage in the next 1-3 years, either with my own funds or with cost share assistance from NRCS or another grant program. Given labor, equipment and materials, I estimate the total cost of this on-farm irrigation system upgrade to be valued at approximately \$33,100.

In addition to increasing efficiency and decreasing my demand for water from the West Fork of the Hood River, replacing my existing system with a micro-sprinkler or low-flow irrigation system will reduce the potential for the other negative effects of over watering. Surface run-off, erosion, loss of topsoil, and nutrient leaching will be reduced which will minimize the existing threats to the East and West Forks of the Hood River. Collectively, the Dee growers who will be upgrading their on-farm irrigation systems will save an estimated 0.7 cfs.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,



Derek DeBorde
Land Manager, Orchardist

January 5, 2016

Oregon Water Resources Department
Attention: Jonathan Unger
725 Summer St. NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301

Re. **Water Supply Development Account Grant Application** - Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project

Dear Mr. Unger:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project grant proposal being submitted by the Dee Irrigation District (DID). The Dee Irrigation Water Conservation and Delivery Project will replace open canals and old, unpressurized pipes with pressurized delivery pipelines. Collectively, this project will eliminate seepage loss and six end spills, and save approximately 2 cfs.

I am an orchardist in Dee Flat and still using a conventional high-flow sprinkler irrigation system. I receive my irrigation water from DID. To complement the proposed project, I plan to upgrade the irrigation system on approximately 24 acres of orchard land that I manage in the next 1-3 years, either with my own funds or with cost share assistance from NRCS or another grant program. Given labor, equipment and materials, I estimate the total cost of this on-farm irrigation system upgrade to be valued at approximately \$35,700.

In addition to increasing efficiency and decreasing my demand for water from the West Fork of the Hood River, replacing my existing system with a micro-sprinkler or low-flow irrigation system will reduce the potential for the other negative effects of over watering. Surface run-off, erosion, loss of topsoil, and nutrient leaching will be reduced which will minimize the existing threats to the East and West Forks of the Hood River. Collectively, the Dee growers who will be upgrading their on-farm irrigation systems will save an estimated 0.7 cfs.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Euwer
Valley Crest Orchards
Land Manager, Orchardist

January 5, 2016

Oregon Water Resources Department
Attention: Jonathan Unger
725 Summer St. NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301

Re. **Water Supply Development Account Grant Application** - Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project

Dear Mr. Unger:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project grant proposal being submitted by the Dee Irrigation District (DID). The Dee Irrigation Water Conservation and Delivery Project will replace open canals and old, unpressurized pipes with pressurized delivery pipelines. Collectively, this project will eliminate seepage loss and six end spills, and save approximately 2 cfs.

I am an orchardist in Dee Flat and still using a conventional high-flow sprinkler irrigation system. I receive my irrigation water from DID. To complement the proposed project, I plan to upgrade the irrigation system on approximately 18 acres of orchard land that I manage in the next 1-3 years, either with my own funds or with cost share assistance from NRCS or another grant program. Given labor, equipment and materials, I estimate the total cost of this on-farm irrigation system upgrade to be valued at approximately \$27,900.

In addition to increasing efficiency and decreasing my demand for water from the West Fork of the Hood River, replacing my existing system with a micro-sprinkler or low-flow irrigation system will reduce the potential for the other negative effects of over watering. Surface run-off, erosion, loss of topsoil, and nutrient leaching will be reduced which will minimize the existing threats to the East and West Forks of the Hood River. Collectively, the Dee growers who will be upgrading their on-farm irrigation systems will save an estimated 0.7 cfs.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Stephen Hunt President Hunt Orchards Inc
5515 Alder Rd
Hood River, OR
97031

Steve Hunt
Land Manager, Orchardist

January 5, 2016

Oregon Water Resources Department
Attention: Jonathan Unger
725 Summer St. NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301

Re. **Water Supply Development Account Grant Application** - Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project

Dear Mr. Unger:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project grant proposal being submitted by the Dee Irrigation District (DID). The Dee Irrigation Water Conservation and Delivery Project will replace open canals and old, unpressurized pipes with pressurized delivery pipelines. Collectively, this project will eliminate seepage loss and six end spills, and save approximately 2 cfs.

I am an orchardist in Dee Flat and still using a conventional high-flow sprinkler irrigation system. I receive my irrigation water from DID. To complement the proposed project, I plan to upgrade the irrigation system on approximately 37.4 acres of orchard land that I manage in the next 1-3 years, either with my own funds or with cost share assistance from NRCS or another grant program. Given labor, equipment and materials, I estimate the total cost of this on-farm irrigation system upgrade to be valued at approximately \$56,230.

In addition to increasing efficiency and decreasing my demand for water from the West Fork of the Hood River, replacing my existing system with a micro-sprinkler or low-flow irrigation system will reduce the potential for the other negative effects of over watering. Surface run-off, erosion, loss of topsoil, and nutrient leaching will be reduced which will minimize the existing threats to the East and West Forks of the Hood River. Collectively, the Dee growers who will be upgrading their on-farm irrigation systems will save an estimated 0.7 cfs.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,



Don Kiyokawa
K&D Kiyokawa Orchards Inc.
Land Manager, Orchardist

January 5, 2016

Oregon Water Resources Department
Attention: Jonathan Unger
725 Summer St. NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301

Re. **Water Supply Development Account Grant Application** - Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project

Dear Mr. Unger:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project grant proposal being submitted by the Dee Irrigation District (DID). The Dee Irrigation Water Conservation and Delivery Project will replace open canals and old, unpressurized pipes with pressurized delivery pipelines. Collectively, this project will eliminate seepage loss and six end spills, and save approximately 2 cfs.

I am an orchardist in Dee Flat and still using a conventional high-flow sprinkler irrigation system. I receive my irrigation water from DID. To complement the proposed project, I plan to upgrade the irrigation system on approximately 52.3 acres of orchard land that I manage in the next 1-3 years, either with my own funds or with cost share assistance from NRCS or another grant program. Given labor, equipment and materials, I estimate the total cost of this on-farm irrigation system upgrade to be valued at approximately \$68,985.

In addition to increasing efficiency and decreasing my demand for water from the West Fork of the Hood River, replacing my existing system with a micro-sprinkler or low-flow irrigation system will reduce the potential for the other negative effects of over watering. Surface run-off, erosion, loss of topsoil, and nutrient leaching will be reduced which will minimize the existing threats to the East and West Forks of the Hood River. Collectively, the Dee growers who will be upgrading their on-farm irrigation systems will save an estimated 0.7 cfs.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,



Adam McCarthy
McCarthy Orchard, LLC
Operations Manager, Orchardist

January 5, 2016

Oregon Water Resources Department
Attention: Jonathan Unger
725 Summer St. NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301

Re. **Water Supply Development Account Grant Application** - Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project

Dear Mr. Unger:

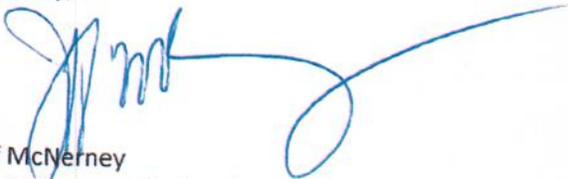
I am writing to express my strong support for the Dee Irrigation Water Conservation & Delivery Project grant proposal being submitted by the Dee Irrigation District (DID). The Dee Irrigation Water Conservation and Delivery Project will replace open canals and old, unpressurized pipes with pressurized delivery pipelines. Collectively, this project will eliminate seepage loss and six end spills, and save approximately 2 cfs.

I am an orchardist in Dee Flat and still using a conventional high-flow sprinkler irrigation system. I receive my irrigation water from DID. To complement the proposed project, I plan to upgrade the irrigation system on approximately 5 acres of orchard land that I manage in the next 1-3 years, either with my own funds or with cost share assistance from NRCS or another grant program. Given labor, equipment and materials, I estimate the total cost of this on-farm irrigation system upgrade to be valued at approximately \$7,850.

In addition to increasing efficiency and decreasing my demand for water from the West Fork of the Hood River, replacing my existing system with a micro-sprinkler or low-flow irrigation system will reduce the potential for the other negative effects of over watering. Surface run-off, erosion, loss of topsoil, and nutrient leaching will be reduced which will minimize the existing threats to the East and West Forks of the Hood River. Collectively, the Dee growers who will be upgrading their on-farm irrigation systems will save an estimated 0.7 cfs.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,



Jeff McNerney
Land Manager, Orchardist