



Water Project Grants and Loans Applications Evaluation Summaries – 2018 Funding Cycle



August 22, 2018

Background

In 2013, the Oregon Legislature passed Senate Bill 839, establishing the Water Supply Development Account to provide grants and loans for projects that address an instream or out-of-stream water supply need and result in economic, environmental and social/cultural benefits. The 2018 application deadline was April 25, 2018. The Department received 19 complete applications requesting a total of \$15,998,829 in grants and loans.

Document Description

The following are evaluation summaries for complete grant applications received for the 2018 Water Project Grants and Loans funding cycle. The multi-agency Technical Review Team (TRT) provided comments on each application, scored applications based on the criteria identified within the [Guidance on the Evaluation of Public Benefits](#) and made a funding recommendation for the Water Resources Commission (Commission) based on that evaluation and available funds. The following evaluation summaries highlight TRT comments gathered by the Department during the application evaluation process, and are prepared for the Commission's consideration and review. Applicants are encouraged to contact the Grant Program Coordinator to request a review meeting and receive additional evaluation feedback. The evaluation summaries are listed in order of the TRT ranking.

The evaluation summary includes a combined public benefit score, which the TRT used to rank proposed projects. A table is also provided that shows a breakdown of the application score by category. An application could score up to 30 points in each of the economic, environmental, and social/cultural public benefit categories. A proposed project could receive up to 10 additional preference points; up to 5 points for legally protecting water instream and up to 5 points for collaboration (these are listed in the "Other" category). There is a maximum public benefit score of 100 points.

Next Steps

The Department is soliciting public comment on the TRT ranking and funding recommendation through 5:00 pm on September 21, 2018. Information on how to submit a public comment is available [here](#). Public comments submitted on the TRT ranking and funding recommendation will be presented to the Commission who will make a funding decision. The tentative date for the Commission to make its funding decision is November 15-16, 2018.

More Information

If you have questions please contact Grant Program Coordinator, Becky Williams, at 503.986.0869 or WRD_DL_waterprojects@oregon.gov.

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Johnston Lane Conservation Project

TRT Recommendation: Recommended for Funding

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: The Freshwater Trust, Ken and Bobbie Baker, and Perry Johnston

County: Wallowa

Funding Requested: \$606,343 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$808,458

Project Summary: The proposed Project is to convert approximately 300 acres of flood irrigated land to a center pivot irrigation system, with anticipated outcomes of improving water management and crop productivity on private land in Wallowa County in the Wallowa River basin. The Project proposes legally protecting approximately 2.3 cfs in conserved water instream, with a goal of improving instream flows for ESA-listed Chinook salmon and steelhead in the Lostine River. Additionally, the water rights not served by the new center pivot system would be transferred instream after project completion. The Project outcomes are expected to encourage other irrigators in the basin to consider participation in regionally-available conservation programs.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 64.5

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
17.5	19.5	19.5	8

Economic: The proposed project outcomes would promote increases in water and labor efficiency. Improvements to recreational and commercial fisheries are another anticipated economic benefit directly resulting from additional water instream. Based on the ditch's close proximity to an active cut bank, the proposed project seeks to mitigate the potential economic impact in the event the ditch is lost. The application provided clear details and quantification needed to support the anticipated public benefits.

Environmental: The conversion of approximately 300 acres of flood irrigated land to a center pivot system has a strong likelihood to improve water quality due to the elimination of contaminant transport into surface water. The project proposes to legally protect 100% of the conserved water instream. An outcome of the project is an increase in flows to the Lostine River, which is a significant river for fish. The application provided clear details supporting the anticipated strong environmental benefits.

Social/Cultural: The proposed project is a result of collaboration between a non-profit organization and private landowners. The Nez Perce Tribe supports the proposed project based on the anticipated enhancement to fisheries with important cultural significance. The application provided detailed plans for sharing scientific data publicly. Anticipated results of the proposed project support scenic and recreational value of the river.

Other Notes: Based on the success of a similar project on neighboring lands, the anticipated feasibility of the project is thoroughly understood.

Dee Flat Water Conservation Project

TRT Recommendation: Recommended for Funding

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Dee Irrigation District

County: Hood River

Funding Requested: \$1,600,000 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$2,688,587

Project Summary: The Project proposes to replace approximately 6 miles of open canal and old, unpressurized High Density Polyethylene pipe. Anticipated Project outcomes include 1) conserving water, 2) increasing irrigation water reliability, 3) legally protecting water instream and increasing flows, 4) energy savings, and 5) potential reduction of risks to water quality through the upgrade and pressurization of Dee Irrigation District's distribution piping system. The proposed upgrades are designed to eliminate 7 end spills and approximately 50 individual pumps. The proposal of a fully-enclosed and pressurized distribution system, anticipates benefits which will improve irrigation water reliability and availability to the 870 acres in the Dee Flat, leave an estimated 2 cfs of water instream during the critical summer months (1 cfs will be protected through the Allocation of Conserved Water Program), reduce energy use by an estimated 340,000 kilowatt hours per year, and eliminate the potential water quality impacts to the West Fork and East Fork from the 7 end spills and their associated drainages. Another anticipated Project benefit is to increase instream flows, with the intention to enhance spawning and juvenile rearing habitat for Endangered Species Act listed population of spring Chinook, summer and winter steelhead, and coho.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 60

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
13.5	20	19	7.5

Economic: An economic strength of the proposed project is short-term job creation and jobs retained, which is well-supported with the detail provided. Another outcome of the proposed project is to enhance fisheries of cultural significance by increasing instream flow. Additional detail to support increased agricultural yield would better support these stated economic claims in the application.

Environmental: An environmental strength of the proposed project is to legally protect 50% of conserved water legally instream through the Allocation of Conserved Water Program. The project proposal to protect water instream is limited to 60 days of the irrigation season. The project, as proposed, would do away with current end spills which would result in the environmental benefit of eliminating discharges of sediment, pesticides and bacteria into the surface water.

Social/Cultural: A strength of the proposed project is the measurable improvements anticipated to fisheries of high value to tribal communities as a result increased stream flows and improved water quality. The proposed project was identified in collaborative planning processes with public engagement opportunities as documented in the application details.

Tumalo Feed Canal Phase 6

TRT Recommendation: Recommended for Funding

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Tumalo Irrigation District

County: Deschutes

Funding Requested: \$1,297,542

Total Project Cost: \$6,744,744

Project Summary: The Tumalo Feed Canal Conservation Project is a multi-phased effort to pipe approximately six miles of open irrigation basalt canal. This application requests funding for Phase 6, which is intended to complete the Tumalo Feed Canal and mitigate water lost to seepage and evaporation in the primary District transmission canal. This phase will pipe 2,920 ft. of the Tumalo Feed Canal in addition to seven laterals totaling 3,380 length-feet: Gill, Lacy, Highline, Parkhurst, Steele, Rock Springs, and 2 Rivers Laterals. Phase 6 alone will conserve 6.84 cfs of water to be returned to Tumalo Creek and 1,740.12 acre-feet in Crescent Creek during the storage season (total of 4,178 acre-feet). One-hundred percent of the publicly-funded conserved water will be protected instream through a new senior water right held by the State of Oregon.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 59.5

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
16	22	13.5	8

Economic: The proposed project anticipates improvements in system efficiency as a direct outcome of the work. An economic strength of the project proposal is a potential increase in property values based on the increase in useable land. The review team commented that the application could be improved by providing more information and focusing details on the role of this phase of work.

Environmental: The application proposes to legally protect 100% of the water conserved as a result of the project instream. The review team commented that flow restoration to Tumalo Creek, as a result of the proposed project, would serve to benefit fish and other habitat conditions. Improvements in water quality conditions are anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

Social/Cultural: An anticipated project outcome of improved instream flow supports the scenic value and recreational opportunities.

Other Notes: The application provides supporting details for project feasibility and likelihood of the claimed public benefits being achieved.

Painted Hills Reservoir Expansion

TRT Recommendation: Recommended for Funding

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Bridge Creek Ranch, LLC

County: Wheeler

Funding Requested: \$581,990 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$1,086,667

Project Summary: The Project proposes to raise the Painted Hills reservoir’s capacity from 800 acre-feet to 1,300 acre-feet and to add irrigation, conveyance, and water monitoring infrastructure to increase Bridge Creek Ranch’s agricultural productivity and efficiency, as well as, to increase both water quality and quantity in Bridge Creek and Bear Creek (and the John Day River). By adding new irrigation infrastructure, the Project intends to improve agricultural production on 45 acres by increasing irrigation efficiency from 50% to 90-95%. The project also anticipates reducing power consumption used for irrigation by 20-25% on over 400 acres. This Project anticipates benefits to both Bridge and Bear Creek’s steelhead and salmonid populations by providing an additional 125 acre-feet of water to be discharged to both streams during the summer low-flow period. This is equivalent to a 0.685 cfs increase for up to 92 days, which is anticipated to provide a 34% increase over recent summer base flows in Bridge Creek. Additional Project goals are to improve the ecological and economic development of the rural working community in this arid climate by providing increased water storage and streamflow, and by providing permanent tourism and agricultural jobs, as well as seasonal construction positions.

Technical Review Team Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 58

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
17.5	20.5	17	3

Economic: An economic strength of the proposed project is an anticipated increase in irrigation efficiency and increases in crop yield. An additional benefit of the proposed project is an increase in energy efficiency. The application could be improved by supplying additional detail on current outdoor recreational conditions to assess the potential changes anticipated by the proposed project.

Environmental: The project proposes to legally protect 25% of newly developed water instream as required for storage projects under this funding opportunity. The project provides detail regarding anticipated water temperature improvements in Bridge Creek based on anticipated releases of cooler water.

Social/Cultural: The proposed project provides substantial detail regarding temperature data collection and information sharing plans. The proposed project anticipates a positive impact of job retention and a potential for small increases in employment in an area of experiencing a declining population and low median household income.

Other Notes: The Department notes that development of a Seasonally Varying Flow Prescription does not apply to the project as proposed, based on the timing of when the reservoir would fill.

Sterling Park Stormwater Recharge Project

TRT Recommendation: Recommended for Funding

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Clean Water Services and the City of Beaverton

County: Washington

Funding Requested: \$862,500 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$1,150,000

Project Summary: The proposed Project is designed to capture and treat residential stormwater as a source for aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) at an existing groundwater well located in Sterling Park in Beaverton, Oregon. The stored stormwater would be recovered in the summer for non-potable uses, including irrigation and streamflow enhancement/temperature mitigation at Summer Creek. By creating an alternative source of supply for non-potable applications, this project anticipates leaving more water instream, benefiting native and endangered fish species in the Tualatin River, and offsetting groundwater usage in the Bull Mountain-Cooper Mountain Critical Groundwater Area. Additionally, by storing and reusing stormwater for beneficial purposes, the Project expects a reduction in excessive erosion and hydromodification by reducing peak stormwater flows in tributary streams to the Tualatin River.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 54.5

Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
12	18.5	17	7

Economic: The proposed project represents an innovative approach to collect and treat stormwater through aquifer storage and recovery for non-potable uses. The project proposal could benefit from providing details on revenue generated from the purple pipe and the corresponding offset to the long-term well maintenance costs.

Environmental: An environmental benefit of the proposed project is an anticipated reduction in stormwater contaminants commonly discharged into the surface water. The application could be improved by ensuring clear and consistent explanation about injection, withdrawal, and instream estimates for the proposed project. The review team commented that there was uncertainty regarding the potential impacts to surface water flows as a result of the proposed project.

Social/Cultural: The proposal for data collection and public information sharing were substantive in content, and thorough in detailing publication methods. The application could be improved by including demographic information regarding the anticipated housing development potentially served, and details to support benefits to low income communities.

Other Notes: The review team noted that there may be practical and regulatory challenges to providing protected instream flows. The proposed project likely may not fit in the exempt category from water right regulation.

Galls Creek Irrigation Conversion Project

TRT Recommendation: Recommended for Funding

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District and JTE Ranch

County: Jackson

Funding Requested: \$153,351 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$213,913

Project Summary: The Project proposes replacing push-up dams with a pump at the lower point of diversion, which would fill two ponds on the east side of Galls Creek. A second pump at the lower pond would provide water to two center pivot irrigation systems and additional “big gun” sprinklers. The landowner proposes abandoning the upper point of diversion, Pfiel ditch, and fields on the west side of Galls Creek, and transferring those water rights to the fields above the Gold Crest ditch and additional fields on the east side of Galls Creek. The new irrigation system anticipates reducing inefficiencies by eliminating all return flows to Galls Creek and replacing the Gold Crest conveyance ditch with a closed pipe. An intended outcome of the proposed Project is that removal of the two push-up dams would restore more than two miles of fish migration habitat, and eliminate return flows preventing bacteria contamination and stream temperature increases, thereby improving water quality in Galls Creek. The Project proposes to improve stream flows by returning a portion of the conserved water back in Galls Creek through the Allocation of Conserved Water Program.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 50.5

Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown				
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other	
14.5	18.5	12.5	5	

Economic: There is a projected increase in per acre agricultural yield as a result of the proposed project. The application could be improved by including supporting details and clear language, regarding claimed improvements to economic activity. The application included information to support potential increases to property values.

Environmental: The project proposes to legally protect 75% of conserved water instream. Another environmental benefit is the removal of push-up dams included in the proposed project, which will improve fish passage. The application could be strengthened with additional details on current water quality conditions and a proposal to measure anticipated improvements, both of which would better support and explain water quality benefit claims.

Social/Cultural: The proposed project anticipates improving spawning and migration conditions for summer steelhead. The application included several letters of support for the proposed project and the benefits of restoring stream connectivity.

Flat Creek Watershed Enhancements

TRT Recommendation: Recommended for Funding

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: South Fork John Day Watershed Council & Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development

County: Grant

Funding Requested: \$196,029 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$391,458

Project Summary: The Project proposes updating the delivery headgate for the Roosevelt Reservoir, and excavating the Pinchot reservoir back to its permitted water holding capacity, making it capable of supplying irrigation water to a 40-acre Food Plot Field during the mid- to late-growing season, July-August. The current delivery system is a wheel line, and a goal of the Project is to improve water application efficiency by using a center pivot. Improved function of the Aldrich reservoirs, Roosevelt and Pinchot are an anticipated Project outcome. The Project includes installing a new fish screen and diversion, as well as conducting engineering, design, and cultural surveys.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 48

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
11.5	13.5	19.5	3.5

Economic: An economic strength of the proposed project is the anticipated impact in the area for youth employment opportunities. Another benefit is that the proposed project anticipates reductions to crop damage and increases in agricultural yields for wildlife forage. The application could be improved by providing more detail regarding the economic benefits as a result of improved recreational opportunities.

Environmental: An environmental strength is that a fish screen is included in the proposed project. The proposed project could be improved by legally protecting water instream. The application could also be strengthened with additional details regarding the water quality monitoring plan and expected water quality benefits.

Social/Cultural: The anticipated improvements to recreation and scenic value for wildlife viewing are a strength of the proposed project. The outcome of restored reservoir storage capacity would serve to improve fire suppression efforts if needed.

The Dalles Municipal Watershed Dog River Pipeline Replacement Project

TRT Recommendation: Recommended for Funding

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: City of The Dalles

County: Hood River

Funding Requested: \$1,000,000 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$8,097,700

Project Summary: The Project proposes to design and construct 3.5 miles of new ductile iron pipe, replacing a wooden pipeline built before World War I, eliminate 1 million gallons of water leakage or a 12.5% loss at peak levels per day, reduce reliance on well use in a Critical Groundwater Area, enhance flow metering systems, install fish screens and upstream fish passage structure, benefit instream flows during critical periods for important fish species such as Steelhead, Coho, and Chinook and help in securing a vibrant economic future for the community and surrounding areas.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 46.5

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
15	11	17.5	3

Economic: The proposed project benefits the water supply system with improvements to infrastructure security. The review team commented that there is an economic benefit from pipe replacement being scheduled prior to system failure. Providing additional detail supporting potential economic improvements as a result of the project would improve the proposal.

Environmental: The project does not propose to legally protect water instream and, therefore, claims to improve protected stream flows were unsupported. The proposed project includes installation of fish screens which provides an environmental benefit. The application could be improved by including details to support claims of improvements in groundwater levels.

Social/Cultural: Improvements to long term public health and safety are anticipated as a result of the proposed project. The application could be improved by broadening efforts to engage with minority or low-income populations. Additionally, the application could be improved by providing specific details of the anticipated water rate improvements projected as a result of this project.

Mosier Deep Water Supply Well

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Wasco County Soil & Water Conservation District and Wade Root

County: Wasco

Funding Requested: \$671,724 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$906,911

Project Summary: As proposed, the Project would complete construction of the second of two deep wells, which would result in removal of the two largest irrigators from the compromised aquifers in the Mosier Critical Groundwater Area. An outcome of the proposal is that withdrawals from the upper Columbia River Basalt aquifers would be reduced by between 660 and 990 acre feet per year. Completion of this project anticipates an increase in the long-term availability of the groundwater supply for Mosier's vital agricultural community and for the community at large, while also benefiting water quantity and quality in Mosier Creek.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 40

Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
10	8	17.5	4.5

Economic: The proposed project strengthens on-farm job retention forecast and anticipates short-term job creation. The anticipated project outcomes may serve to improve water availability for junior water users. The application could be strengthened by broadening efforts for community economic improvement gains.

Environmental: Increases in base flows in Mosier Creek are an anticipated project outcome. The application could be improved with details supporting the anticipated long term improvements to instream flows. The project does not propose to legally protect water instream.

Social/Cultural: The proposed project indicates collaboration between the Soil Water Conservation District and a private landowner. An additional strength of the proposed project is the open process and availability of information. The proposed project is identified in a wider water planning approach by the local watershed council. The application provides supporting information and plans detailing project data sharing.

Other Notes: The proposed project is ready to be implemented and has demonstrated feasibility.

Palmer Creek Irrigation Upgrade Project

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Timothy and Suzanne Kreder

County: Yamhill

Funding Requested: \$582,713 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$1,003,803

Project Summary: The Project proposes to upgrade an existing agricultural irrigation system by expanding infrastructure and using water-saving technology. The aim is to give the system the capacity to effectively deliver enough water for higher-value crops on more acres. A Project goal is to make it possible for farmers in Yamhill County to use more of the water stored in the Willamette Valley Project reservoirs. The first phase of the Project would be the implementation of drip tube irrigation and remote soil moisture monitoring and control system for greater water savings in a 55 acre blueberry field, which is currently irrigated using overhead impact sprinklers. The second phase would be replacing the existing pump with an energy-efficient higher-capacity pump and extending the existing mainline pipe with 10.1 ft. of underground 8 inch PVC mainline pipe to irrigate another 79 acres. The intent is to save water by using drip irrigation and remote soil moisture monitoring and control systems, rather than a big gun sprinkler. The third phase would be the construction of a small reservoir and secondary pumping site connected to center pivot and linear drip irrigation systems with 1700 ft. of underground 8-inch PVC mainline pipe. The third phase would irrigate another 92 acres.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 39

Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
22	7	10	0

Economic: An economic strength of the proposed project is the potential for agricultural job creation based on anticipated increases in crop production yields. The application details the potential for increases in economic activity which was well-quantified and specific. The project proposes to result in an increase in irrigated acres.

Environmental: The project proposes to establish cover crops which have the potential to reduce sediment and pesticide runoff as an environmental benefit. The review team commented that Palmer Creek is primarily an irrigation conveyance system and the project, as proposed, does not address the system's potential lead to stranded fish. While instream flow protection benefits are claimed, the project does not propose to legally protect water instream.

Social/Cultural: The application could be improved with broadening efforts to participate in local/regional planning. The proposal could benefit with more details regarding data collection and sharing.

Smith Ditch Water Delivery Improvement

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Baker Valley Soil and Water Conservation District

County: Baker

Funding Requested: \$590,902 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$799,152

Project Summary: The Project proposes to pipe a section of the ditch to conserve water and provide protection from future ditch breaches. Such breaches into Baker City could result in the loss of the ability to use the ditch and irrigate 2,230 acres of agricultural land. A 3,550 ft. section of the open ditch will be replaced with 48" DR41HDPE fusion welded pipe which will be installed in the existing ditch for all but one portion of the project area. Regular flow measurements to determine the exact ditch loss will be conducted in the year leading up to the pipeline installation and 100% of the live flow amount (estimated currently at 0.53 cfs) would be legally protected instream.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 38.5

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
11	12.5	10.5	4.5

Economic: A strength of the proposed project is the improvement to infrastructure security. The application could be strengthened by providing additional details on types and numbers of jobs supported by the water supply project.

Environmental: The project proposes to legally protect 100% of the conserved water. The application could be improved by providing additional details and documentation supporting potential environmental benefits.

Social/Cultural: The proposed project anticipates public safety benefits by improving security against ditch failure. The proposal could be improved by expanding efforts to coordinate with, and engage, the local community. Supporting details and additional documentation would strengthen the application.

Threemile Joint Fish Screen and Piping Project

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Wasco County Soil & Water Conservation District and Rock Creek District Improvement Company

County: Wasco

Funding Requested: \$948,461 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$2,543,296

Project Summary: The Threemile Joint Fish Screen Project proposes to eliminate 16,000 feet of open ditch in two neighboring Irrigation Districts and convert it to pipe, saving 2 cfs. Half of the saved water (1 cfs) would be converted to a senior instream water right on a currently over-allocated stream. The Project proposal includes eliminating two unscreened fish passage barriers and installing a new fish friendly diversion and Farmers Conservation Alliance screen. The instream water right would restore flow in to up to 14 miles of natural stream that has been seasonally dewatered for the last century.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 36

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
9	9.5	12	5.5

Economic: The proposed project anticipates the creation of short-term jobs and the retention of agricultural jobs. The project is likely to enhance the value and recreational quality of public lands commonly used for hunting and outdoor recreational purposes. The application could be improved with including supporting details and additional information for review team consideration.

Environmental: The project proposes to legally protect 50% of the conserved water instream through the Allocation of Conserved Water program. The portion of conserved water identified in the application is not likely to substantially improve conditions for fish. A strength of the proposed project is the inclusion of fish screen installation.

Social/Cultural: The application could be improved by providing additional documentation of the support and collaborative efforts between the two irrigation districts affected by the proposed project.

Other Notes: The application could be improved by documenting and supporting anticipated changes as a result of the proposed project.

Newport Citywide Advanced Metering Infrastructure

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: City of Newport

County: Lincoln

Funding Requested: \$636,119 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$1,507,782

Project Summary: The proposed Project represents the third and final phase of its water conservation project. The City plans to complete the installation of updated Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) technology to improve water management and meet growing demand for clean water supply in the coastal community. Installation of the AMI technology, telemetry equipment, and billing software would enable the City and its water users to quickly identify leaks and wasteful water practices by delivering real-time information to water users through online portals. Anticipated benefits to the City, industrial and commercial water users, and residents include savings of time, money, and water resources. Ultimately, outcomes of the Project expect results in water conservation, energy savings, improved water management, and increased resiliency to man-made and natural disasters.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 34.5

Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
11.5	6	14	3

Economic: The application proposes an innovative technology with the potential to increase system efficiency and identify leaks in the system. The application could be improved by providing additional details regarding how the project proposes to improve system repairs.

Environmental: The proposed project's strength is the ability to identify areas of water loss and opportunities for efficiency. The project, as currently proposed, does not include actions to implement actual water loss reduction or conservation. While instream flow protection benefits are claimed, the project does not propose to legally protect water instream.

Social/Cultural: A strength of the proposed project is the timely information water users will receive to identify opportunities for system improvement. The proposed project promotes priorities identified in the City Water System Master Plan and public notice and outreach efforts were employed in planning. The application included a detailed proposal for information and data sharing efforts.

Central Oregon Irrigation District G-4 Lateral Piping Project

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Central Oregon Irrigation District

County: Deschutes

Funding Requested: \$349,728 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$470,190

Project Summary: This Project proposes piping approximately 4660 ft. of open, earthen canal as Phase One of Central Oregon Irrigation District's (COID's) System Improvement Plan (SIP). The current configuration of this lateral serves eight patrons in a rotation with a total of approximately 127 acres with a disparate mix of both flood and pressurized irrigation distribution, causing challenges in managing and delivering water. This Project intends to mitigate water loss by installing individual, measurable deliveries for each patron served by the G-4. The Project anticipates conserving 0.10 cfs of water to return and legally protect instream in the Deschutes River. This Project will connect to the Pilot Butte Canal (PBC), one of COID's two main transmission canals that will be enclosed in pipe in multiple phases with estimated completion in 2031.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 31.5

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
12.5	7	9	3

Economic: An economic strength of the proposed project is the potential for increased short-term and seasonal employment. The application could be strengthened by providing more detail on other economic measures and increases realized that would be realized by the project.

Environmental: An anticipated improvement, which would result from the project, is reduced seepage and water loss through piping the conveyance system. The application could be strengthened by including the legal protection water instream as part of this project proposal, rather than as a future action to be conducted 5 years after project completion. The application detailed limiting ecological factors; however, the application would have benefitted from additional information on how the project would directly address those factors.

Social/Cultural: A strength of the proposed project is that it is part of, and supported by, a collaborative process. The application could be improved by providing details on the proposed plan for making project data and information publicly available. The proposed project could be improved by including supporting details for anticipated benefits to tribal communities.

Fishhawk Lake & Stream Water Supply & Quality Improvement Project

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community and the Upper Nehalem Watershed Council

County: Clatsop, Columbia

Funding Requested: \$584,068 Grant

Funding Requested: \$673,106 Loan

Total Project Cost: \$918,675

Project Summary: This Project proposes construction of an 8' x 10' controlled sluice gate within the existing drop-drain spillway designed to operate simultaneously with high-water weather events to scour the bottom of the lake and flush both existing and incoming sediment downstream. The gated spillway is expected to pass a quantity of 2000-5000 cubic yards or more of sediment per year, based on two high-water weather events per year (depending on rainfall amount and storm duration). Goals of the Project include restoring the depth and available water in the lake, adding ecological benefits to the lake and downstream habitat with improved water temperatures, lessening turbidity, increasing oxygenation levels, and replenishing the streambed with gravels, sediments and debris deposits.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 30.5

Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
11.5	6	13	0

Economic: The proposed project represents an innovative approach to promote flushing sediments downstream. The project's innovative approach is not supported by other case studies which would support the likelihood of project success. The application could be strengthened by focusing on economic public benefits anticipated as a result of direct changes resulting from the proposed project.

Environmental: The project does not propose to legally protect water instream and, therefore, claims to improve protected stream flows were unsupported. The review team commented that there may be a potential for unintended environmental impacts based on the quantity and type of material passed through the system. The proposed project could be strengthened by including fish passage and screens.

Social/Cultural: An anticipated improvement to public safety is a strength of the proposed project, based on improvements to the dam. The application could be strengthened by providing more detail to demonstrate the change in recreational conditions as a result of the proposed project.

Beaver Creek East Reservoir Above-Ground Storage

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: Young's Farm Blue Mountain Holdings, LLC

County: Crook

Funding Requested: \$654,900 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$873,200

Project Summary: The Project proposes to store water in a 134 acre-foot off-channel reservoir in Crook County within the Crooked River watershed of the Upper Deschutes Basin. The Project goals include outcomes that intend to improve and increase agricultural production on the Blue Mountain Holdings irrigation grazing pastures and enhance instream flows for listed sensitive-critical Rainbow Trout, sensitive Great Basin Redband Trout, and the listed sensitive Brook Lamprey. The Project proposes to legally protect 25% of annually-stored water as instream flows in the dry summer months. Additionally, to address seepage losses, approximately 750 feet of new PVC piping infrastructure from the POD will be installed, thereby avoiding pumping into the existing earthen ditch, to the reservoir, and pipe from the reservoir to the irrigated place of use.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 30.5

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
12.5	8.5	7	2.5

Economic: The application provided clear information regarding the anticipated number and detail, of short term and seasonal jobs, created directly resulting from the proposed project. The application provided details supporting potential increases to on-farm economic activity, however, the application would be improved with additional detail regarding economic improvements for the community. More detail and quantification would support the benefit claim of infrastructure enhancement as a project outcome.

Environmental: The proposed project intends to legally protect 25% of newly developed stored water instream as required for above-ground storage projects seeking grant funds. The application acknowledges that the Oregon Water Resources Department will determine the timing of these releases in consultation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to maximize instream benefits. The water right for the proposed project is in process. The application could be strengthened by including details on the means to measure and document water quality conditions resulting from the proposed project.

Social/Cultural: The application could be strengthened by providing additional detail for the intended social/cultural public benefits. The proposal claimed that the project would increase publicly available information, however this benefit claim would be strengthened by describing how the collected project data and information would be made publicly available.

Lafayette Water Transmission Intertie to McMinnville

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: City of Lafayette

County: Yamhill

Funding Requested: \$1,875,000 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$2,800,000

Project Summary: The Project proposes construction of an 8,800 foot, 12-inch water line and pump station from the City of McMinnville to Lafayette. If funded this project is designed to allow Lafayette to receive water from McMinnville Water & Light in order to supplement the City's water supply source and avoid summer water-use restrictions. In the winter, the City is able to utilize spring water, but that source is not an option in the summer, thus the City is completely reliant on a diminishing joint groundwater system shared with the City of Dayton. An additional goal of the water intertie Project is to support the future growth needs of Lafayette for the next 20 years.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 28.5

Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
13	1.5	10.5	3.5

Economic: The proposed project would likely result in a significant enhancement of infrastructure and provide an increase in system efficiency. Avoiding a building moratorium may be a potential outcome of the proposed project. The application could be improved by providing additional detail to support claimed economic improvements.

Environmental: The proposed project could be improved by considering potential opportunities to participate in a broader effort to achieve environmental benefits. While the project claims improvements in protected instream flow, the project does not propose to legally protect water instream.

Social/Cultural: The proposed project would provide improvement to fire safety and public security for the community. The application demonstrated the regional cooperation and planning for the proposed project. The application could be improved with additional detail to document information regarding the project's role in ensuring an emergency water supply.

Amity Water Distribution Line Replacement and Reservoir Site Improvements

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

Project Information (adapted from application)

Applicant Name: City of Amity

County: Yamhill

Funding Requested: \$2,134,353 Grant

Total Project Cost: \$2,845,804

Project Summary: The proposed Project is to design and implement improvements to the reservoir, replace seven pipelines as well as a transmission line, and install new fire hydrants. To bring the reservoir back online the proposal includes replacing valving and controls to restore storage capacity. Replacement of old corroded pipes and asbestos concrete material which have deteriorated is anticipated to improve water quality and reduce water loss from 43% to 15%. A goal of the Project also to reduce bottlenecks (succession of pipes of different diameters restricting water pressure) by upsizing lines resulting in an increase in water flow to enhance water pressure and fire protection. Other goals of the project are to enhance conservation, restore storage volume, and improve water infrastructure reliability and dependability.

Technical Review Team Score and Comments

Combined Public Benefit Score: 23.5

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
6.5	6	11	0

Economic: An anticipated outcome of the proposed project is the ability to fill a currently unfunded position by supporting it financially through efficiencies and cost savings gained by the project. The application supports, with documentation, the potential energy savings and improvements in efficiency as a result of the proposed project. The review team commented that the application could have been improved by discussing additional economic public benefits which may be likely outcomes of the proposed project.

Environmental: The project proposal anticipates conservation gains through water loss reduction and provided supporting evidence and details. The review team observed that the project does not propose to legally protect water instream which would improve the environmental score. The application could be improved with details to support claims regarding how water quality would improve as a result of the proposed project.

Social/Cultural: The proposed project supported the strong likelihood of improved public health and safety benefits that would be realized. The application could have been strengthened by providing additional detail and evidence for engagement with and improvements for, minority, low-income, and economically distressed populations.

Other Notes: The proposed project demonstrated feasibility and design readiness to proceed once funding is secured.