

# Everybody Drinks!

## Funding Opportunities with Drinking Water Providers

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Drinking Water Protection Program – Watershed Management

Jan. 13, 2020 – for Rogue Basin Drinking Water Workshop

# Drinking Water Source Protection Grants/Loans

DW Source Protection Fund ~\$200,000 / year total

- Grants: Up to \$30,000 per public water system to reduce risk in source area - no match required
- Loans: Up to \$100,000 per project, low interest. i.e. land acquisition or incentive based protection measures

Purpose: To reduce risk risks within the drinking water source area



State of Oregon  
Department of  
Environmental  
Quality



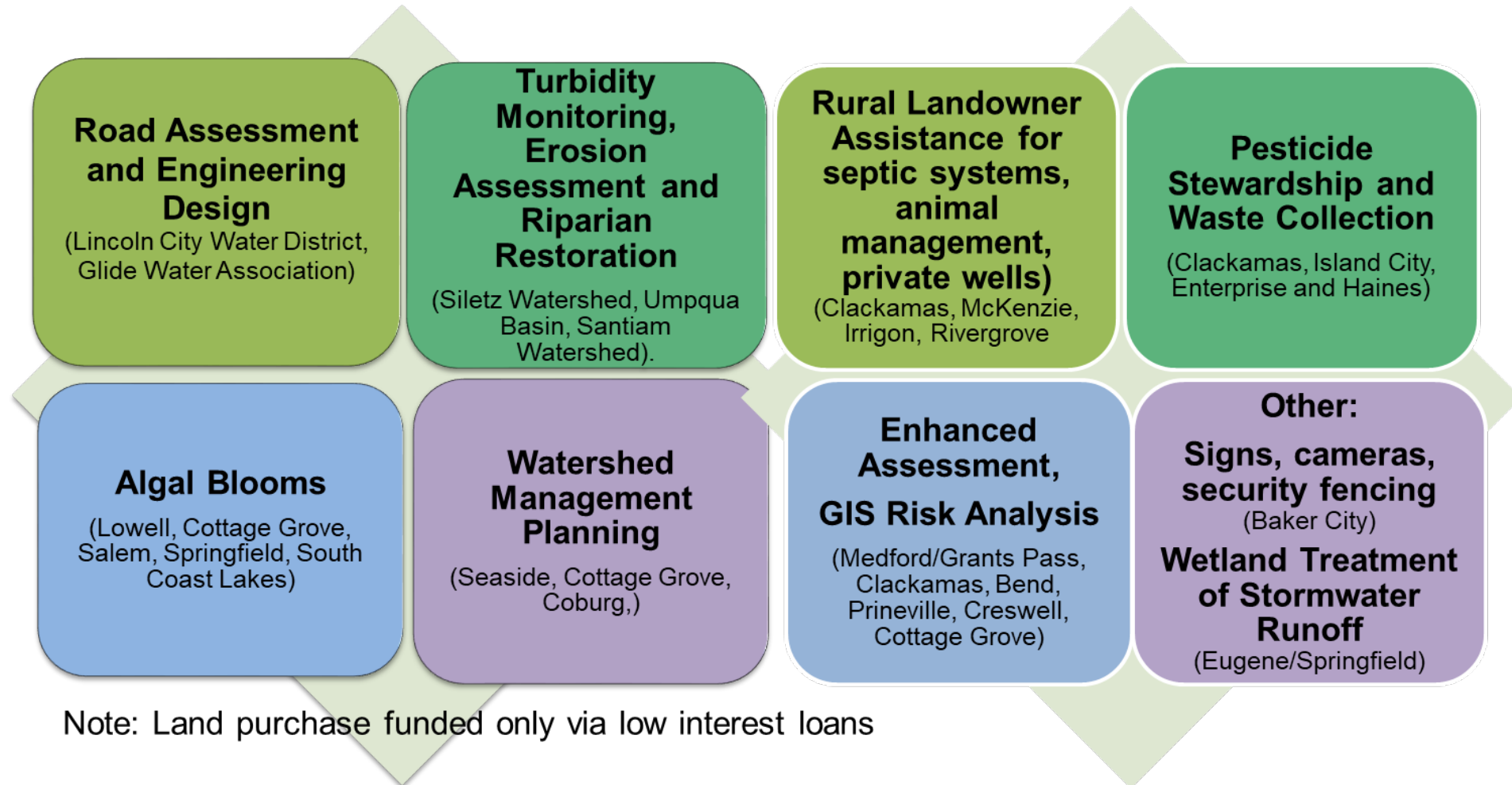
# DW Source Protection Fund – Overview

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## Public Water System must apply

- Community and Nonprofit Non-Community water systems
- Must have completed Source Water Assessment
- Can only receive in two consecutive years
  
- ✓ Accept Letters of Interest January through March
- ✓ Awarded projects must spend money within 2 years to avoid forfeiture
- ✓ Water systems can collaborate on a regional (joint) project and combine funds
- ✓ Emergency grants for source water threats that arise outside the LOI submission deadline.
  
- ✓ Search: OHA Drinking Water Source Protection  
<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HEALTHYENVIRONMENTS/DRINKINGWATER/SRF/Pages/spf.aspx>

# Drinking Water SPF – Project Types



Note: Land purchase funded only via low interest loans

# The Dalles 2013 Government Flat Complex Fire

- ~25% of source area – lower watershed burned
- \$30,000 DW SPF Emergency Grant for aerial grass seeding of 100 high-priority acres
- primarily for grass seed – other partners and the City of Dalles funded other restoration too



# Schooner Creek Sediment Reduction

- Reduce sediment above the Lincoln City municipal water intake through road drainage and surface improvements, and road segment stabilization.
- Partners
  - ✓ Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council
  - ✓ Lincoln City (PWS)
  - ✓ Lincoln County Public Works
  - ✓ Siuslaw National Forest
- Multiple years of funding by DWPP and DW SPF



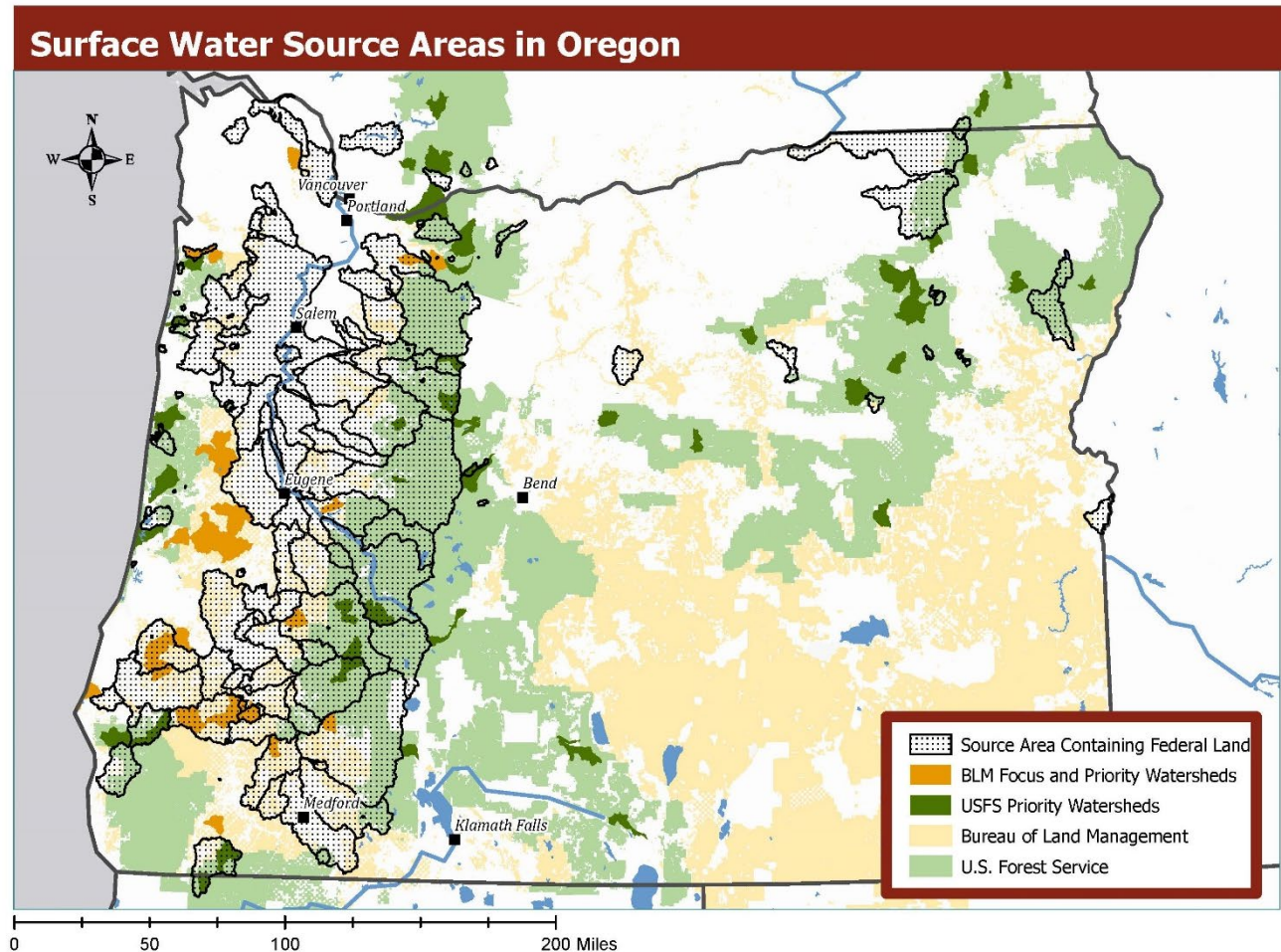
# Drinking Water Providers Partnership



- Public and private organizations pooling funds to improve health of drinking water watersheds and aquatic life benefit
- Supports local partnerships between downstream drinking water providers and upstream landowners and restoration practitioners.

# Drinking Water Providers Partnership

- Must be a drinking water source area with a federal (USFS/BLM) nexus
- Multiple types of eligible applicants
  - Tribal, local, state, or federal governments, educational institutions, public water systems, non-profit organizations, watershed councils, landowners, soil and water conservation districts



Data sources: Washington Department of Health, Oregon DEQ, BLM, USDA-FS, ESRI, Geos Institute | Date revised: 10/26/2020 | by James Edson



# Drinking Water Providers Partnership



- \$400,000 to \$600,000/year available (projects up to \$50,000)
- Projects that are a good fit for Source Protection Funds are referred to state program
- Awarded projects must be completed by end of following fiscal year (for Federal Funds)
- Proposals typically due January – awards in March+

<https://www.workingwatersgeos.org/drinking-water-providers-partnership>

# City of Dallas – Upper Rickreall Habitat Enhancement

- 1987 Rockhouse Creek fire lead to severe erosion and increased sediment in creek and Mercer Reservoir
  - drinking water source for City of Dallas
- DWPP funded air-lift of 522 logs for 34 new instream structures (2016)
- Meets mutual goals and objectives in drinking water watershed
  - Improves fish passage and increases woody debris to slow flows in key salmon habitat watershed
  - Significantly contributes toward cleaner and more sustainable drinking water supply downstream



# City of Dallas

## Upper Rickreall Creek

- Strong partners+ multiple funding sources:
  - ✓ Polk SWCD
  - ✓ BLM
  - ✓ City of Dallas
  - ✓ Rickreall Watershed Council
  - ✓ Hancock Forest Management
  - ✓ ...and more
- Led to successful DEQ CW SRF loan for land acquisition



# Other Potential Funding Sources

- **Watershed protection projects through Clean Water SRF**
  - Aligned with DEQ’s “Nonpoint Source Management Program Plan”
  - Sponsorship Option to combine nonpoint source control project with wastewater facility project financing - sponsored project done at no cost or substantially reduced cost due to low interest rate
  - Low interest loans available for land purchase or NPS work
  - Local Community Loan – use funds to establish a local loan fund for citizens
- **CWA Nonpoint Source Grants (\$319 )**
  - Generally < \$30K and non-federal match required (40%)
  - Must address priorities in RFP – contact DEQ Basin Coordinators
- **Supplemental Environmental Projects**
  - Respondents to DEQ compliance and enforcement orders
  - SEP Option for up to 80% of monetary penalty to improve Oregon’s environment
- **Water system match contributions**

# Partnering with NRCS - NWQI

- 2018 Farm Bill implemented new focus on Source Water Protection Areas - National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI)
- Funding for detailed watershed assessment and an outreach strategy to address agricultural-related impacts to source water quality.
- FY19 and FY20, National and Oregon NRCS provided ~\$900,000 in Conservation Technical Assistance dollars to fund 10 Source Water Protection readiness plans.



# Summary

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- Public health issues can leverage water quality interest and implementation
- Additional funding may be available by collaborating with drinking water providers
- DEQ can help with identifying partners, resources, and funding sources. GIS/mapping support available for communities and partners etc.



# Questions?



## *Oregon Drinking Water Protection Program*

<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/programs/Pages/dwp.aspx>

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