



## Active Regional Solutions Projects

October 2015

### **Southern Oregon Region** (Jackson and Josephine Counties)

**\*Food Hub:** The Food Hub project is a warehouse distribution and collection center for organic produce grown in the Rogue and Applegate Valley and surrounding areas. Most organic farmers in the Region do not have the capacity to enter the wholesale distribution network. The Food Hub will allow these growers to combine their produce into truck size volumes for distribution. RST is working with the Food Hub on land use, funding, and infrastructure issues.

**Gold Hill Community Development & \*Kayak Water Park:** Providing community development assistance with wastewater facility management options which may include a UGB land exchange as well as providing regulatory technical assistance and seed funding in developing a world class white water kayaking park on adjacent park land and along the Rogue River.

**Work Source One Stop:** Efforts to combine the Oregon Employment Department in Jackson County (OED) with the sister federal organization (The Job Council) in Medford in one location and under joint administration in order to improve inter-agency efficiencies and improve service delivery to job seekers and business clients.

**Project Thermal:** A business expansion project potentially utilizing a unique thermal energy system to offset operating costs. RST agencies assisting with financing tools and feasibility analysis.

**Medical Campus Redevelopment:** Brownfield and TGM funding are assisting Josephine County with the demolition of the Dimmick Hospital (completed) in Grants Pass, cleanup of the adjacent site and building, and with site redevelopment

**North Valley Business Expansion:** This industrial park represents practically the only available acreage for business expansion in unincorporated Josephine County. The RST is providing support to the County in the form of financial and regulatory technical assistance to upgrade sewer capacity and allow for future growth and industrial development. Most recently Civil West has been selected to produce a Preliminary Engineering Report for North Valley General Services District, with funds from OBDD's IFA and Josephine County.

**WISE Project:** The project will increase irrigation water delivery system efficiency with water conservation and quality benefits. The project core is to pipe the irrigation system. Work by HDR on the Preliminary Design and Feasibility Study has identified a pump station location on the Rogue River that will allow much more flexible water distribution and facilitate water transfer around the basin to better address irrigation needs, ESA requirements, and water quality goals. This year, the Benefit Cost Analysis has been completed, work on the Governance arrangements has begun, a meeting of the WISE Oregon Solutions project stakeholders is in the works. The project is currently moving through EA work as required by NEPA.

**\*Little Butte Creek Irrigation Pod Project:** The project will convert more than 500 acres of flood-irrigated pasture to a sprinkler system, 300 acres of which will convert to a pod system. Benefits of the on-farm improvements are a more efficient water delivery, less quantity of polluted water runoff into Little Butte Creek, and improved water quality. Partners include the Natural Resource Conservation Service, County SWCD, ODA, OWEB, Medford Water Commission, and participating landowners.

**Project MKN:** A business recruitment project for Southern Oregon. Consultation is needed with DEQ regarding handling and disposal of chemicals used in process, as well as air contaminant discharge permit issues.

**Medford Airport One:** Project Allred is a warehouse distribution center recruitment project looking for a West Coast expansion. The company's preferred site is the Airport One property, an Oregon certified site, and the City of Medford has asked for assistance to extend Industrial Way to accommodate this development.

**Project Stagecoach:** Project Stagecoach is a Southern California company looking to purchase light industrial land in the Northgate Marketplace development along Hwy 238. RST is assisting with environmental issues and a possible Prospective Purchaser Agreement, ODOT is to be commended regarding Hwy 238 design as this aided the attractiveness of site to Project Stagecoach.

**Spalding RSIA:** Spalding Industrial Park is one of the very few locations in Josephine County/Grants Pass, with vacant industrial land, including a 65 acre parcel. The RST worked with the city to designate the industrial park as a regionally significant area in March 2014, and IFA is working on a pilot financing proposal to assist with the infrastructure extension costs. Project Entry is looking to expand onto 20 acres and build a 300,000 sq. ft. manufacturing facility. Grants Pass is preparing to request assistance from IOF.

**Shady Cove Downtown Revitalization:** RST supported an effort to combine the construction of a new water mainline along with plans to upgrade Highway 62 through Shady Cove's downtown corridor. The \$3.4M project will provide bike lanes and sidewalks, rapid flashing crossing beacons, a new center turn lane and new pavement for the City. The water line will be paid for by a private contractor but installed concurrently with the project. Construction will occur in the summer of 2018.

**Southern Oregon Rail Service:** The Siskiyou Rail Revitalization project is an RST initiated TIGER grant to reestablish railroad freight operations between Douglas County, through the Siskiyou, to Weed, CA. Work included tunnel, bridge and track repairs in two states. Total project cost is \$13.2M, with a FY12 TIGER Discretionary Grant of \$7.2M, \$70K from ODOT Rail, \$20K from Douglas County, \$10K from Jackson County and the remainder from CORP. Startup of the line is slated for November 2015. This was a joint effort between RST, Douglas County, Jackson County, Siskiyou County, CORP and Roseburg wood product companies.

**Blackwell Road Interchange:** Trucking industry expanding/relocating into the Blackwell interchange area (I-5 Exit 35) after adoption of the long range land use plan and the Highway 140 Corridor Plan. Allows local trucking distribution firm to have more efficient access to I-5, decreases shipping costs, reduces air shed impacts and allows for future expansion. RST assisting with land use, transportation issues and utility finance (IFA SPWF). A \$5M 2018 STIP project to enhance Blackwell Road coming off the interchange is already in the design stages.

**\*Grants Pass Airport Expansion:** RST is helping the Grants Pass Airport move forward with the environmental review and design of a new parallel taxiway at their airport. The taxiway is needed for both safety concerns and future development. The RST is working on obtaining advance funding of the taxiway design for future reimbursement with grant funds. The FAA has now agreed to support \$1.5M for construction activities once the environmental and design work are complete.

**Novalis Institute:** Proposed College field campus and preserve in the Emigrant Creek Valley and hillsides in Jackson County. Includes an 80 acre campus surrounded by over 1800 acres preserved for active sustainable agriculture, forestry, and wildlife education and research. RST members involved in technical assistance related to land use and the development of mitigation alternatives per ODFW Wildlife Habitat Mitigation policies.

\* Denotes priority project implementation proposals recommended by the RST advisory committee that sought legislative funding last session

**Southern Oregon Region - Jackson and Josephine Counties – Infrastructure Final Request**

- Fry Family Farm Food Hub
  - \$450,000
  - Create shared food aggregation, processing and distribution center, a certified kitchen and farm stand.
  
- Josephine County East Side Parallel Taxiway Project
  - \$420,000
  - Engineering design and environmental permitting for a full length parallel taxiway at the Grants Pass Airport.
  
- Flood Irrigation Conversion in Little Butte Creek Watershed
  - \$320,000
  - Purchase irrigation equipment to support a new set of innovative irrigation projects that conserve water.
  
- Gold Hill White Water Kayak Course Design
  - \$90,000 (General Fund)

SUBTOTAL:     \$1,280,000

TOTAL (.82)    \$1,049,600

**Southern Oregon Region - Jackson and Josephine Counties – Infrastructure Final – LB Awarded Proportionate Share (80 percent of total \$)**

- Fry Family Farm Food Hub
  - ~\$397,000 – Status: Project is now funded at this amount and under IGA w/ RVCOG. Has received private funding and donations to make up the shortfall.
  
- Josephine County East Side Parallel Taxiway Project
  - ~\$370,5000 – Status: Project needs \$425,000 in immediate financing
  
- Flood Irrigation Conversion in Little Butte Creek Watershed
  - ~\$282,000 – Status: One project ready and needs \$233,000. Other projects still under development and have time for 2017 lottery bond sale.



## Little Butte Creek Irrigation Project Update

**To: Southern Oregon Regional Advisory Committee**

**From: Kate Jackson, DEQ Regional Liaison**

**Date: November 9, 2015**

**Subject: Updated Project Chart, Funding Cycle Variables**

The attached chart lists the projects the Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District (JSWCD) is currently planning and implementing in the Little Butte Creek Watershed. This is an updated version of the chart produced one year ago when you first considered this project.

We are grateful that the Advisory Committee has chosen to help fund these on-farm improvements. It is understood that the awarded funds are not available until mid-2017. In the meantime, the projects in this plan will move forward at varying paces.

Project B has been updated for a design specific cost estimate, and is now entering the installation phase. Installation will likely be in two phases. Three new projects have entered the initial planning phase, indicated as Projects E, F, and G.

The planning process is very fluid; additional landowners can approach the District at any time to begin the planning process while other projects have been in the works for several years. As planning progresses, design and therefore costs of individual projects change. In addition, once a landowner has signed a contract with NRCS or another funder, funds to cover the remainder of the project must be identified right away so the landowner can meet the obligations of the contract.

While one or more of the projects on the original 2014 chart may be installed prior to these funds becoming available, this updated chart lists several new projects in the planning phase so there will continue to be projects in the Little Butte Creek watershed qualifying for matching Governor's funds.

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**Little Butte Creek Irrigation Project:** The project will convert more than 500 acres of flood-irrigated pasture to sprinkler systems. Benefits of the on-farm improvements include more efficient water delivery, less quantity of polluted water runoff into Little Butte Creek, and improved water quality in the runoff. Partners include the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Jackson SWCD, ODA, OWEB, Medford Water Commission, and participating landowners.

## ESTIMATED PROPOSED PROJECT COSTS

Landowner	Total Acres Converted	Conversion Project Type	Est. Materials Cost	Est. In-Kind (Landowner Contribution) Labor Cost	Est. Total Project Cost	Est. Potential NRCS FUNDS	Non-Funded Portion (Matls - NRCS funds)
A	42	Inefficient Pumping w/ Flood to Efficient Pump w/ Center Pivots	\$ 105,000.00	\$ 46,200.00	\$ 151,200.00	\$ 60,480.00	\$ 44,520.00
B*	145.8	Flood to Efficient Pump w/ Center Pivot and PODS; Inefficient pump and wheel line to efficient Pump and PODS	\$ 436,000.00	\$ 189,540.00	\$ 625,540.00	\$ 203,000.00	\$ 233,000.00
C	298	Flood to Gravity Pressure PODS	\$ 596,000.00	\$ 387,400.00	\$ 983,400.00	\$ 393,360.00	\$ 202,640.00
D	26	Flood to Solar/Diesel Pump w/ Center Pivot	\$ 78,000.00	\$ 28,600.00	\$ 106,600.00	\$ 42,640.00	\$ 35,360.00
E**	12	Flood to Sprinkler from Irrigation Canal - 2 properties	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 14,400.00	\$ 9,600.00
F**	8	Flood to Sprinkler from Irrigation Canal	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 4,800.00
G**	30	Flood to sprinkler, sprinkler upgrade	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 22,500.00	\$ 67,500.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 18,000.00

\* Project Cost Updated as planning has progressed.

\*\* Still in initial planning phase

<b>TOTALS =</b>	<b>561.8</b>		<b>\$ 1,296,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 692,240.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,988,240.00</b>	<b>\$ 748,080.00</b>	<b>\$ 547,920.00</b>
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