

Umatilla County

Department of Resource Services and Development

Umatilla County Critical Groundwater Task Force



NEWS RELEASE

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Contacts: J.R. Cook, Assistant Planning Director
Office: 541.278.6251 Cell: 541.314.9463

Todd Jarvis, Oregon State University
Office: 541.737.4032

Task Force hires OSU to Assist with Water Outreach

Pendleton, Ore. -- The Umatilla County Critical Groundwater Task Force has entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon State University, Institute for Natural Resources for assistance with water related outreach within the Umatilla Sub Basin of Umatilla County. The Task Force chose to contract with OSU/IWW due to their credibility, and history of working with all levels of the community on consensus based solutions to natural resource related problems.

“OSU has the ability to generate attractive and informative outreach materials on all water related issues in the Umatilla Sub Basin...” stated Jaime Clarke, Chairman of the Task Force Outreach Subcommittee. “...We are hoping that a joint OSU/Task Force outreach effort will engage the public in water related issues in Umatilla County, and encourage public participation in identifying consensus based solutions to a sustainable, multi-beneficial water supply.”

OSU will be retained through December to assist the 20 member volunteer Task Force with developing text, verbal and visual outreach materials, scheduling outreach venues and conducting water related outreach to all age groups. OSU will also assist the Task Force in developing their first of a series of visioning workshops to relay Task Force findings and policy/project recommendations of the 2050 Water Plan. The Task Force and OSU have scheduled the first visioning workshop to take place with agricultural interests over Farm Fair in Hermiston, Oregon.

For more information on the Umatilla County Critical Groundwater Task Force please contact J.R. Cook, Assistant Planning Director at 541.278.6251.

To learn more about water related issues in the Umatilla Sub Basin or to request materials or an outreach activity in your area please contact Todd Jarvis, OSU, Senior Researcher in Water Resources at 541.737.4032 or send emails to groundwatertaskforce@hotmail.com.

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