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NEWS – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 2024

Baker Valley Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is awarded \$71,159 to convert flood irrigation on forty acres to sprinkler application and an irrigation delivery ditch will be abandoned to improve water quality in the Powder River.

For More Information:

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Baker City, OR – The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) awarded \$71,159 to Baker Valley Soil and Water Conservation District for the Palmer-Denham Irrigation Project at their April 22-24, 2024 board meeting.

The award was one of 62 restoration, technical assistance, and engagement grants to local organizations statewide totaling \$11,378,813 to support fish and wildlife habitat and water quality projects.

In the Palmer-Denham Irrigation Project, flood irrigation on forty acres will be converted to sprinkler application and an irrigation delivery ditch will be abandoned to improve water quality in the Powder River. It is expected to begin Summer 2024.

Funding for these grants, awarded by the OWEB Board, comes from the Oregon Lottery, and Federal Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery funds provided by the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration.

Since 1999, the Oregon Lottery has provided over \$525 million to OWEB's grant program that helps restore, maintain, and enhance Oregon's watersheds. Combined, the Lottery has earned nearly \$15 billion for watershed enhancements, public education, state parks, and economic development. For more information about the Oregon Lottery visit www.oregonlottery.org.

For additional information about this project contact Whitney Rohner at the information above. For additional information about OWEB and its grant programs, contact Eric Hartstein at eric.hartstein@oweb.oregon.gov. A listing of all awarded grants is available at: <http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/Documents/2024-Apr-Board-Awards.pdf>