

DESCHUTES COUNTY LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETING





Local Work Group Meetings are a valuable part of the NRCS planning process, providing an opportunity for local land managers to be part of a collaborative effort to improve natural resources within your county.

You are invited to:

- ✓ Review performance of the past year's projects.
- ✓ Help shape plans and prioritize future projects.
- ✓ Connect with partners and new audiences to seek opportunities to leverage partnership funds.
- ✓ Learn about other NRCS programs which may prove beneficial to you.



www.or.nrcs.usda.gov

WHERE:

Redmond City Hall Civic Room 208 (upstairs) 411 SW 9th St, Redmond, OR 97756

DATE: Tuesday February 11th, 2025

TIME: 9:00am - 11:00am

For more information contact: Lars Santana - District Conservationist 541-699-3194 Lars.Santana@usda.gov



United States Department of Agriculture

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Subject: Deschutes County Local Work Group Meeting Where: Redmond City Hall – Civic Room 208 411 SW 9th St. Redmond OR 97756 When: Tuesday, February 11th, 2025, 9:00am – 11:00am

As a leader in Deschutes County, you are likely familiar with the challenges and opportunities surrounding collaborative natural resource planning and problem solving. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is hosting a Local Work Group Meeting to gather community input regarding conservation opportunities and priorities across the county.

Our goal is to bring together individuals with a variety of expertise and knowledge, allowing NRCS and others to build on our collective successes while focusing our efforts to make the greatest impact using our available staff and funding.

We need your help to:

- identify where the best investments can be made to address natural resource problems,
- share the work that has already been done in the county, and
- share your vision for what the county will look like when these natural resource concerns have been addressed.

In addition to prioritizing identified problems, we will strategize potential solutions and measurable outcomes. The information you provide will be used to develop a Long-Range Strategy to guide NRCS conservation efforts and funding in Deschutes County over the next five to ten years. Your input is very valuable and will help all of us work towards a stronger, healthier, and more economically viable community and agricultural industry.

If you are unable to attend this meeting, but would like additional information or would like to provide your input, please contact Lars Santana, District Conservationist via phone at (541)699-3194 or e-mail at Lars.Santana@usda.gov

This meeting is open to the public, so please feel free to share this information with others who may be interested in participating. Thank you in advance for your time and participation in this very important process.

Sincerely, Lars Santana District Conservationist USDA-NRCS

9:00 am – 11:00 am

- Welcome and Introductions Lars Santana, District Conservationist NRCS The Local Working Group Process
 - NRCS Conservation Farm Bill Programs Overview
- Forestry Review performance of past year's conservation efforts
 - Restoration of Fire Resilient Landscapes in Deschutes County,
 - Conservation Implementation Strategy Planning session – Ranking Projects
 - Forestry Priority Resource Concerns
 - Forestry Priority Areas
 - Forestry Conservation Measurables and Outcomes
- Irrigation Review performance of past year's related conservation efforts
 - Deschutes County On-farm Irrigation and Energy Efficiency, Conservation Implementation Strategy
 - Smith Rock, Regional Conservation Partnership Program
 - Three Sisters Irrigation District, Regional Conservation Partnership Program
 - Kingway, Regional Conservation Partnership Program
 - Planning session Ranking Projects
 - Irrigation Priority Resource Concerns
 - **Irrigation Priority Areas**
 - Irrigation Conservation Measurables and Outcomes
- Other USDA Conservation Efforts
 - High Tunnel Initiative, Organic Initiative, and more..

PL-566 information note: The Deschutes County Local Working Group process is a separate planning process than the PL-566 planning process. NRCS manages the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (also known as Public Law 83-566 or PL-566), authorized by Congress in 1954. The purpose of this program is to provide technical and financial assistance to public entities for planning and implementing authorized projects that protect watersheds, mitigate floods, improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, create opportunities for hydroelectric power production. The Central Oregon Irrigation Modernization Project includes multiple irrigation districts in Central Oregon in partnership with the Deschutes Basin Board of Control and the Farmers Conservation Alliance. Project website: www.oregonwatershedplans.org