

Attention Jefferson County Producers:

During the 2021 Oregon Legislative Second Special Session, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) received funding to provide Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) a grant to support soil conservation in areas impacted by drought. Funding is being provided to support stewardship practices on irrigated land that is at high risk for erosion and soil degradation, and to limit proliferation of noxious and invasive weeds.

The Producer Verification Form with guidelines and instructions for producers to submit to the Jefferson County SWCD for reimbursement of soil conservation practices implemented between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 is available on Jefferson County SWCD's website at jeffswcd.org.

All applications are due by June 30, 2022.

Highest priority will be given to North Unit Irrigation District (NUID) Patrons. Jefferson County producers outside of the NUID will be eligible for reimbursement if funding is still available.

Highest priority practices eligible for reimbursement include: Conservation Cover, Cover Crops, Fallowing, Residue Management, Herbaceous Weed Treatment and Pasture and Hay Planting. The highest priority practices that were (or will be) implemented between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022 are eligible for reimbursement. Rates are determined on a per acre basis. Weed control is a necessary component of all the above practices in order to be eligible for reimbursement. **Final reimbursement rates will be calculated when all Producer Verification Forms have been reviewed and approved, and may be adjusted downward based on program demand.**

Please contact Jefferson County SWCD if you have any questions at 541.699.3170 or by email at districtmanager@jeffswcd.org.

OWEB DROUGHT PROGRAM – SOIL CONSERVATION GRANT
 Producer Application for Reimbursement

Section 1: Producer Verification Form Overview

All applications due by June 30, 2022

This is the application for producer reimbursement for eligible soil conservation practices implemented between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2023. Eligible practices are prioritized on irrigated land at high risk for erosion, soil degradation, and noxious and invasive weeds (Table 1.1). Practices will be reimbursed based on the following levels as funding is available:

- Level 1: Priority 1 practices within North Unit Irrigation District (NUID)
- Level 2: Priority 1 practices outside NUID (reimbursed only if funding is still available)
- Level 3: Priority 2 practices within Jefferson County (reimbursed only if funding is still available)

Table 1.1. Eligible Soil Conservation Practices

Priority 1	Implemented prior to June 30, 2022: Fallowing + Conservation Cover/Cover Crops/Pasture and Hay Planting + Herbaceous Weed Treatment
Priority 2 (may NOT be funded)	<p>Planned (implementation after June 30, 2022): Fallowing + Conservation Cover/Cover Crops/Pasture and Hay Planting + Herbaceous Weed Treatment</p> <p>AND/OR</p> <p>Implemented and/or Planned (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residue and Tillage: (Reduced Till, Residue and Tillage Management, Low/No-Till, Mulching) • Erosion Barriers: Field Border, Filter Strips, Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation, Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation, Crosswind Ridges, Cross Wind Trap Strips, Herbaceous Wind Barriers • Irrigation: Irrigation Water Management, Irrigation and Drainage Tailwater Recovery, Sprinkler System, Structure for Water Control, Irrigation Storage Reservoir, Pumping Plant, Irrigation System: Micro-irrigation, Irrigation System: Surface and Subsurface, Irrigation Reservoir
<p>Note: Water conservation projects (e.g., piping or canal lining) to improve stream flows are not eligible activities. Obstruction Removal must be combined with Conservation Cover, Cross Wind Ridges, Cross Wind Trap Strips, Strip Cropping, or other eligible practices listed above.</p>	

Reimbursement rates for practices will be prioritized based on the timing and level of activity, with the goal of incentivizing early and pro-active soil conservation practices (Table 1.2).

Table 1.2. Reimbursement Tiers and Eligible Activities

Tier 1	Planting of cover crop and weed control prior to June 30, 2022. If cover crop was grazed or harvested, producer will be compensated at a lesser rate; grazed or harvested cover crops that were irrigated are ineligible for payment. Producers will be compensated at the highest level for practices on fields that <u>were and continue to be fallowed due to drought.</u>
Tier 2	Active maintenance of ground cover/crop residue and weed control following 2021 harvest. Producers will be compensated at a lower level for conservation practices on ground that was productive in 2021, but fallowed due to drought in 2022 and is at risk of neglect.
Tier 3	Fallowing of active farmland and active weed control beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

OWEB DROUGHT PROGRAM – SOIL CONSERVATION GRANT
 Producer Application for Reimbursement

Table 1.3. Estimated Reimbursement Rates for Priority 1 Practices (Rates bases on 2021 NRCS Cost List). Final reimbursement rates will be calculated when all Producer Verification Forms have been reviewed and approved, and may be adjusted downward based on program demand.

Tier	Practices	Estimated Reimbursement Rate
1	Fallowed + cover crop/conservation cover/pasture and hay planting + weed control	\$50/acre - fallowed and weed control \$50/acre - active maintenance of ground cover \$50/acre - cover crop was planted (NOT grazed/harvested) Total estimated reimbursement = \$150/acre
	As above, but harvested or grazed, and not irrigated	\$50/acre - fallowed and weed control \$50/acre - active maintenance of ground cover \$25/acre - cover crop planted and grazed/harvested (and NOT irrigated) Total estimated reimbursement = \$125/acre
2	Fallowed + active maintenance of ground cover/crop residue + weed control	\$50/acre - fallowed and weed control \$50/acre - active maintenance of ground cover/crop residue Total estimated reimbursement = \$100/acre
3	Fallowed + weed control	\$50/acre - fallowed and weed control Total estimated reimbursement = \$50/acre

Note: Priority 2 reimbursement rates will be developed after Priority 1 practices have been allocated.

OWEB DROUGHT PROGRAM – SOIL CONSERVATION GRANT
 Producer Application for Reimbursement

Section 2: Producer Reimbursement Form

To be completed by the Applicant

Table 2.1. Producer Information

Applicant Name <input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Lessee	
Business Name (if relevant for reimbursement)	
Mailing Address (where reimbursement checks will be mailed)	
Phone	
Email (if available)	
Farm and Tract Number(s) (if available)	
Estimated total # acres treated	

Table 2.2. Estimated Acres of Suites of Soil Conservation Practices Implemented

Priority	Practice	# Acres NOT Harvested/Grazed	# Acres Harvested/Grazed
1	Tier 1: Fallowing + Conservation Cover/Cover Crops/Pasture and Hay Planting + Herbaceous Weed Treatment		
	Tier 2: Fallowing + Maintained existing vegetative cover + Herbaceous Weed Treatment		
	Tier 3: Fallowing + Herbaceous Weed Treatment		
2	Fallowing + Conservation Cover/Cover Crops/Pasture and Hay Planting + Herbaceous Weed Treatment (after June 30, 2022) AND/OR Implemented and/or Planned (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residue and Tillage: (Reduced Till, Residue and Tillage Management, Low/No-Till, Mulching) • Erosion Barriers: Field Border, Filter Strips, Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation, Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation, Crosswind Ridges, Cross Wind Trap Strips, Herbaceous Wind Barriers • Irrigation: Irrigation Water Management, Irrigation and Drainage Tailwater Recovery, Sprinkler System, Structure for Water Control, Irrigation Storage Reservoir, Pumping Plant, Irrigation System: Micro-irrigation, Irrigation System: Surface 		

OWEB DROUGHT PROGRAM – SOIL CONSERVATION GRANT
Producer Application for Reimbursement

	and Subsurface, Irrigation Reservoir		
TOTAL			

Table 2.3 Attached Documentation

<p>REQUIRED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Field map(s): either from computer or hand-drawn<input type="checkbox"/> Tax lot Number(s)<input type="checkbox"/> Receipts: e.g., seed, herbicide, equipment rental or purchases<input type="checkbox"/> Estimated total # hours of labor <p>IF AVAILABLE: <input type="checkbox"/> Photo(s)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (describe):</p>
--

OWEB DROUGHT PROGRAM – SOIL CONSERVATION GRANT
Producer Application for Reimbursement

Producer Agreement

- Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will not release any funds for reimbursement to the producer until the producer has submitted the Producer Verification Form to the SWCD Project Manager.
- Producer shall provide this completed and signed Form, along with the following information:
 - Certification that the producer owns or leases the land where the work was performed.
 - Certification that the land which is being reimbursed has a valid irrigation water right.
 - Certification that billing for water right is current.
 - Certification that the producer is financially responsible for the land costs.
- I agree to allow the SWCD on site for inspection and evaluation to confirm eligible practices being reimbursed were completed on the property.
- I agree to allow the OWEB Board and its representatives access to the site where the work was performed for inspection and evaluation; and
- I understand that my application to the SWCD and that information relating to the work is a public record.
- All reimbursement rates decided upon by the SWCD are final.

Producer Signature: _____

Date: _____

SWCD Manager: _____

Date: _____

The SWCD has reviewed and approved this application for reimbursement.

Please submit to: Email: districtmanager@jeffswcd.org
Mail: Jefferson County SWCD
625 SE Salmon Ave, #6
Redmond, OR 97756.

Section 3: Eligibility Checklist for Reimbursement

To be completed by Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District

Table 3.1. Checklist for Priority 1 Practices within NUID

Verifier Name:	Verification Method	Yes/No
Producer Verification		
1. Are the field(s) located within NUID? a) If yes, continue to next question. b) If no, move to Table 2.	NUID records	
2. Is the eligible practice a Priority 1 soil conservation practice? a) If yes, continue to next question. b) If no, move to Table 3.	Review Priority 1 activities	
3. Does the applicant own or lease the farmland?	NUID records	
4. Does the field <u>have valid irrigation rights?</u>	NUID records	
5. Is North Unit Irrigation District (NUID) billing current?	NUID records	
Practice Verification		
1. Did the producer fallow field?	Producer Verification Form and supporting documentation	
2. Did the operator plant or manage vegetative cover?		
a) If yes, was cover crop planted in the fall of 2021?		
b) If yes, is producer still actively maintaining perennial crop residue?		
c) If yes, was cover crop planted in the spring 2022?		
3. Did the producer actively control weeds?		
a) If yes, field control?		
b) If yes, ditch bank and fencerows?		
4. Did the producer remove crop residue for low-yield forage/prep for fall planting?		
5. Was the cover crop grazed?		

OWEB DROUGHT PROGRAM – SOIL CONSERVATION GRANT
 Producer Application for Reimbursement

Table 3.2. Checklist for Priority 1 Practices outside of NUID

Verifier Name:	Verification Method	Yes/No
Producer Verification		
1. Is the eligible practice a Priority 1 soil conservation practice? a) If yes, continue to next question. b) If no, move to Table 3.	Review Priority 1 activities	
2. Does the applicant own or lease the farmland?	Producer records?	
3. Does the field <u>have valid irrigation rights?</u>	OWRD?	
Practice Verification		
1. Did the producer fallow field?	Producer Verification Form and supporting documentation	
2. Did the operator plant or manage vegetative cover?		
a) If yes, was cover crop planted in the fall of 2021?		
b) If yes, is producer still actively maintaining perennial crop residue?		
c) If yes, was cover crop planted in the spring 2022?		
3. Did the producer actively control weeds?		
a) If yes, field control?		
b) If yes, ditch bank and fencerows?		
4. Did the producer remove crop residue for low-yield forage/prep for fall planting?		
5. Was the cover crop grazed?		

Table 3.3. Checklist for Priority 2 Practices (to be determined if funding is available)

Verifier Name:	Verification Method	Yes/No
1. Does the applicant own or lease the farmland?	Producer records	
2. To Be Determined		