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# State of Oregon Workplan: Protecting Public Health from Nitrate Exposure in the Lower Umatilla Basin Ground Water Management Area

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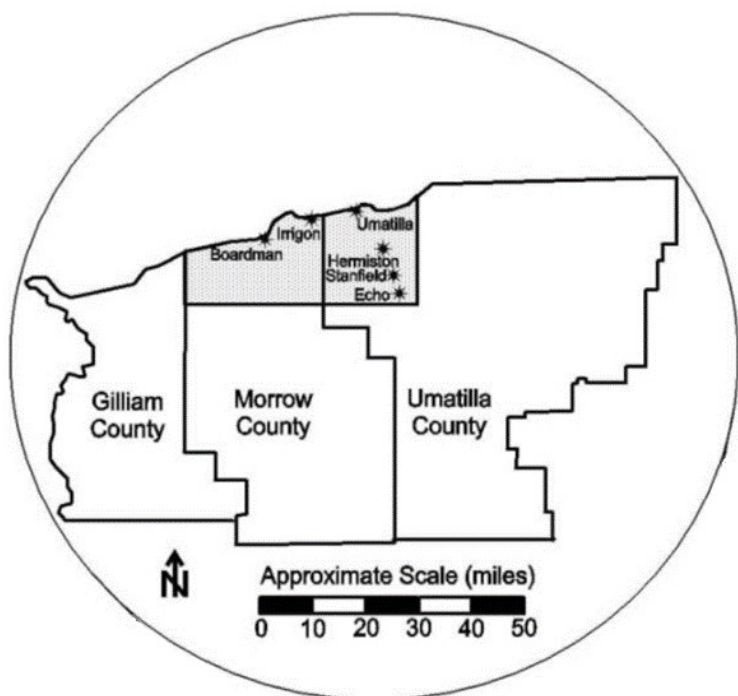
April 12, 2022

PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION  
Environmental Public Health

Oregon  
Health  
Authority

# Background

*Estimated 12,000 household members served by domestic well water.*



- Sources
- Health Concerns
- Diverse and vulnerable population

# Background

*Limited impact to public water systems; greater impact to domestic wells.*



- Public water systems
- Groundwater monitoring
- Action plans

# OHA Workplan

*Oregon's goal is to eliminate LUBGWMA domestic well water consumer exposure to high nitrates (>10 mg/L).*



- Outreach and education
- Hazard assessment
- Screening, testing, interpretation
- Mitigation options

# OHA Workplan Resource Needs

*Additional staff, pass-through funding to partners and contractual support for environmental laboratories and water treatment professionals are needed.*



- Staffing
- Mini-grants
- Contracts

# DEQ Workplan: Ongoing

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- Permitting
  - Industrial and domestic permit renewals
  - Evaluation of land application practices
- Monitoring
  - Includes sampling, analysis, and reporting from network of wells
- Oversight of Umatilla Depot Superfund Site Restoration
- Funding for Infrastructure upgrades (CWSRF)
- Onsite Repair/Replace:
  - Loan Program
  - Financial Assistance Program

# DEQ Workplan: 2023-25 ARB Development

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## Restore and enhance ER/LUB Capacity (POP)

- Staff support for coordination, agronomy and hydrogeology SME
- Contract service funding for modeling/sampling needs

## Data Collection (LC/POP)

- Improve transmittal/collection of RET well testing results

## Statewide GW Quality Evaluation and Task Force (LC/POP)

- Contracted evaluation of GW Quality Regulatory efficacy
- Stakeholder Task Force to review evaluation findings and make recommendations for possible improvements

# Oregon Department of Agriculture Programs

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- Point sources: Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) program permits
- Non-point sources: Agriculture Water Quality program area plans and rules



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# Confined Animal Feeding (CAFO) Permits

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- Scope: Feeding operations subject to federal regulations
- Prohibits waste discharge to water
- Specifies nutrient application rates
- Limits irrigation water applications

# Agricultural Water Quality

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- Area Plans: Voluntary conservation to meet water quality goals
- Area rules: Regulatory authority to prevent and control water pollution
- Irrigated Agriculture
  - Voluntary best management practices
    - Irrigation and nutrient management
  - Regulation of waste discharge to water
    - Complaint/observation based



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