



Grant Soil & Water Conservation District 2020 Annual Meeting

Thursday, March 5th, 6:00 – 7:30pm
Grant County Municipal Airport, John Day, OR

Guest Speaker: Brenda Sanchez, OR Dept. of Agriculture Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) Program Lead

Upcoming Changes to Oregon's Agricultural Water Quality Management Program

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) has the authority to enforce **Administrative Rules** under their **Agricultural Water Quality Management Program**; these rules apply to private property owners or operators whose land is engaged in agricultural use.

Since 2003, enforcement has occurred on a complaint driven basis; ODA is currently proposing an alternative known as the **"Strategic Implementation Area" (SIA)** process.

This process will **select specific watersheds** within Grant County and conduct **remote evaluations** of private lands using aerial and satellite imagery to **identify potential water quality concerns**; follow up field evaluations will be initiated to further examine the accuracy of the findings conducted remotely.

The proposed schedule to implement this program on private lands includes the **North and Middle Fork John Day River** as well as the **Crooked River** basins in 2021, **Middle John Day River** (downstream of Mountain Creek), **Malheur River** and the **Silvies Basin** (Greater Harney Basin) in 2022 and the **Upper Mainstem and South Fork John Day Rivers** in 2023.

The public is invited to join Grant Soil and Water Conservation District for this informative event. Complimentary refreshments will be served. More information can be obtained either by visiting our website: grantswcd.net, stopping by the District Office located in the USDA Agricultural Service Center (721 S. Canyon Blvd, John Day) or by contacting Kyle Sullivan at (541) 575-0135 x111.