



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

# JEFFERSON 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 Jefferson 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.
- ✓ And learn about other NRCS programs which may prove beneficial to you.



Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service

[www.or.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov)

### WHERE:

Madras City Hall Chambers  
125 SW E Street  
Madras, OR 97741

### DATE:

Wednesday, February 12th, 2025

### TIME:

9:00am - 11:00am

For more information contact:  
Lars Santana - District Conservationist  
541-699-3194  
[Lars.Santana@usda.gov](mailto:Lars.Santana@usda.gov)



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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Lars.Santana@usda.gov

Subject: Jefferson County Local Work Group Meeting

Where: Madras City Hall Chambers

125 SW E Street

Madras, OR 97741

When: Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

9:00am – 11:00am

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 Jefferson County over the next five to ten years. Your input 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](mailto: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

Jefferson County NRCS Local Work Group  
Strategic Planning Meeting  
February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Agenda

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9:00 am – 11:00 am

- Welcome and Introductions – Lars Santana, District Conservationist NRCS
  - Review the Local Working Group Process
  - NRCS Conservation Farm Bill Programs Overview
- Review performance of past year’s conservation efforts
  - North Unit Soil Health and Sustainability Conservation Strategy
    - Presented in partnership with:
      - Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District
    - Trout Creek Watershed Enhancement
    - Hydrologic Restoration for Steelhead
- Planning session
  - Priority Resource Concerns
  - Priority Areas
  - Conservation Measurables and Outcomes
- Other USDA Conservation Efforts
  - High Tunnel Initiative, Organic Initiative, and more..

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PL-566 information note: The 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](http://www.oregonwatershedplans.org)