



2024 NW Beech Street  
Madras, Oregon 97741

(541) 475-3625  
(541) 475-3652  
Fax (541) 475-3905  
nuid@northunitid.com

February 11, 2022

Dear North Unit Irrigation District Patrons,

I would like to provide an update on the State Emergency Disaster Assistance Funds that State/County Officials, NUID Board, Management, and Patrons worked so hard to obtain. Many of you have questions concerning the State Emergency Disaster Assistance Funds specifically directed to NUID and its patrons. Below is a brief list and description of the relevant funds that are available to Jefferson County, NUID, and its patrons. The funding is being administered through the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), and Department of Administrative Services (DAS). I strongly encourage you to research Senate Bill 5561 for additional information.

1. \$5.5M Recipient (NUID) shall use the Grant for the purposes of directly compensating NUID patrons for water shortages due to extreme drought and Endangered Species Act obligations, preventing water user accounts from being in arrears, and ensuring NUID remains financially solvent and can continue to deliver water to NUID patrons. (DAS)
2. \$1.627M To provide matching grants to Irrigation Districts to support investments in irrigation modernization projects. (OWEB)
3. \$2.0M To provide matching grants to NUID to support investments in irrigation modernization projects. (OWEB)
4. \$1.0M To provide grants for drought resiliency projects in Jefferson County. (OWEB)
5. \$3.0M For distribution to the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District to support stewardship practices on irrigated land that is at high risk for erosion and soil degradation, and to limit the proliferation of noxious and invasive weeds. (OWEB)
6. \$40.0M Oregon Agricultural Disaster Relief Fund, for the establishment of a forgivable loan program to assist farming and ranching producers who have sustained crop losses due to drought and other disasters. \$5M of the \$40M is specifically for Farmers and Ranchers in Jefferson County. (ODA)

Regarding the above funds, the \$5.5 million that is directed to NUID will be the most relevant to our immediate situation. NUID has signed the initial contract with DAS to receive these funds and anticipates receiving the funding by the end of February. The NUID Board of Directors voted to apply a credit to current patron accounts, and the credit amount will be based on the amount paid during the 2021 irrigation season. To be clear, the funds will not be paid directly to NUID patrons but will be applied as a credit to existing accounts. Please contact the NUID office for more information if you have additional questions.

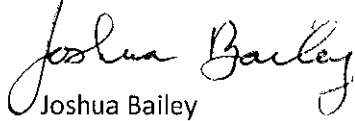
Concerning the funds that are being distributed by OWEB, these funds are in the process of being distributed to the appropriate state and local agencies, but we do not have a confirmed delivery date at this time. I encourage you to reach out to OWEB, or the relevant agencies for additional information.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Disaster Relief Funds are being processed, and we hope to have more information soon. I encourage you to contact the Oregon Department of Agriculture for the latest news and developments.

There are additional opportunities available in the legislation that may benefit your operations. I have only included a brief update on the funding programs that NUID is currently tracking. I encourage you to do your own research into these disaster funding opportunities. As always, we at NUID are happy to help in any way we can.

Pray for Rain!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joshua Bailey". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Joshua Bailey

General Manager

North Unit Irrigation District