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Attention NUID Patrons:

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. This grant is supported by General Funds and has an explicit legislative intent, per House Bill 5561 (2021). 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.

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 being determined on a per acre basis. **Weed control is a component of all the above practices in order to be eligible for reimbursement.**

All other soil conservation practices: Residue and Tillage Management (Reduced Till) Residue and Tillage Management (No-Till), Mulching, Field Border, Filter Strips, Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation, Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation, Crosswind Ridges, Cross Wind Trap Strips, Herbaceous Wind Barriers, Low/No till, 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) **will only be available for reimbursement if funding is still available.**

Jefferson County SWCD will have a Producer Verification Form with guidelines and instructions available for producers after the Grant Agreement with OWEB is in place. **It is anticipated that the Jefferson County SWCD will begin accepting applications for reimbursement starting July 2022. Producer Verification Forms, with guidelines and detailed instructions, will be distributed to NUID patrons as early as June 2022.**

Jefferson County SWCD will reach out to you again when more information becomes available within the next few weeks. Thanks for your patience!