

BIL and IRA

- **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: \$9 Billion over 5 years**
 - \$918 Million for NRCS watershed conservation programs
 - \$2 Billion for Rural Utilities Service to advance high speed internet in rural communities
 - \$5.5B for Forest Service
- **Inflation Reduction Act: \$40 billion over 10 years**
 - \$20B for conservation programs and climate smart agriculture
 - \$13 billion for clean energy and the transformation of rural power production
 - \$5 Billion investment in forest conservation, wildfire risk reduction , Urban Community Forestry and more.

Resources

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Resources:

1. [Build.gov](#)
2. [BIL Guidebook](#)
3. [State Fact Sheets](#)
4. [Maps of Progress](#)
5. Open and Upcoming Funding Opportunities - [link](#)
6. Infrastructure Technical Assistance Guide – link [here](#)
7. Workforce Development Guide – link [here](#)
8. Tribal playbook – link [here](#)
9. Rural playbook – link [here](#)
10. [BIL 1 Year WH Fact Sheet](#)

Inflation Reduction Act Resources

1. [IRA Guidebook](#)
2. Soon to come: Tribal Playbook



Agenda

Linda Delgado, Senior Advisor OSEC [5 min]

Alyssa Charney, Chief of Staff, NRCS [10 min]

Margi Hoffman, RD State Director, OR [10 min]

Andrew Johnson, Forest Supervisor, Region 2 [10 min]

Q and A [10 min]



USDA-NRCS IRA and BIL Opportunities in OR

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

nrcs.usda.gov

NRCS Background

- NRCS helps private landowners improve the health of their operations while protecting our natural resources for the future
- More than 2,300 **Service Centers** nationwide, in every state and territory
- NRCS provides **technical assistance** -- personalized advice and information based on the latest science and research
- NRCS provides **financial assistance** -- cost share for implementing practices through a variety of programs, including programs for producers, partner organizations, and governments
- NRCS also leads the **Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production**, which provides grants for urban agriculture and cooperative agreements for composting and food waste reduction



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Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provided \$918 million for Watershed Programs administered by NRCS:
 - \$500 million for the **Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) Program**
 - Helps units of federal, state, local and tribal of government (project sponsors) protect and restore watersheds up to 250,000 acres
 - \$118 million for the **Watershed Rehabilitation (REHAB) Program**
 - Helps project sponsors rehabilitate aging dams that are reaching the end of their design lives and/or no longer meet federal or state standards
 - \$300 million for the **Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP)**
 - Offers vital recovery options for local communities to help people reduce hazards to life and property caused by major storms, wildfires, floods, and other natural disasters



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Oregon BIL projects

- **East Fork Irrigation District Irrigation Modernization Project - \$998,480 TA**
- **Tumalo Irrigation District Modernization Project - \$284,776 TA**
- **Owyhee Irrigation District Modernization Project - \$1,486,839 TA**

Inflation Reduction Act

- Once-in-a-generation opportunity to address climate change
- Invests \$40 billion into USDA programs promoting climate smart agriculture and forestry, rural energy, forest conservation, and more
- Approximately \$20 billion supports NRCS conservation programs over 4 years:
 - \$8.45 billion for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
 - \$4.95 billion for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
 - \$3.25 billion for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
 - \$1.4 billion for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)
 - \$1 billion for the Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) Program
 - \$300 million to measure, evaluate, quantify carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas emission reductions from conservation investments



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NRCS, Producers and the IRA



- Agricultural producers can play a critical role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, sequestering carbon, and deliver lasting solutions to the climate crisis
- NRCS supports farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in meeting their conservation goals, *regardless of the size, location, and type of operation*
- **IRA provides an opportunity to expand this support, with a focus on climate change mitigation**

The IRA Focuses on Mitigation


Natural Resources Conservation Service
Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF) Mitigation Activities List⁽¹⁾ FY2023

Climate Change Mitigation Practice Categories	Code	Conservation Practice Standard Name ⁽¹⁾ (units)	CSP Enhancement Code	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Bundle and Enhancement Activity		
Soil Health	327	Conservation Cover (acres)	B000BF1	Buffer Bundles*		
			B000CP124	Cropland soil health management system*		
			B000CP125	Climate smart advanced soil health*		
			E327A	Conservation cover for pollinators and beneficial insects		
			E327B	Establish Monarch butterfly habitat		
			E328A	Resource conserving crop rotation		
			E328B	Improved resource conserving crop rotation		
			E328E	Soil health crop rotation		
			E328F	Modifications to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter		
			E328G	Crop rotation on recently converted CRP grass/legume cover for soil organic matter improvement		
	328	Conservation Crop Rotation (acres)	E328H	Intercropping to improve soil health		
			E328D	Perennial grain crop conservation rotation		
			E329A	No till to reduce soil erosion		
			E329B	No till to reduce tillage induced particulate matter		
			E329C	No till to increase plant-available moisture		
			E329E	No till system to increase soil health and soil organic matter content		
	329	Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (acres)	E329F	No till to reduce energy		
			332	Contour Buffer Strips (acres)	None Available	
			340	Cover Crop (acres)	E340A	Cover crop to reduce soil erosion
					E340B	Intensive cover cropping to increase soil health and soil organic matter content
	E340C	Use of multi-species cover crops to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter				
	E340D	Intensive orchard/vineyard floor cover cropping to increase soil health				
	E340E	Cover crop to minimize soil compaction				
	E340G	Cover crop to reduce water quality degradation by utilizing excess soil nutrients				
	E340H	Cover crop to suppress excessive weed pressures and break pest cycles				
	E340I	Using cover crops for biological strip till				
	E345A	Reduced tillage to reduce soil erosion				
	E345B	Reduced tillage to reduce tillage induced particulate matter				
	345	Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (acres)	E345C	Reduced tillage to increase plant-available moisture		
			E345D	Reduced tillage to increase soil health and soil organic matter content		
			E345E	Reduced tillage to reduce energy use		
			E386A	Enhanced field borders to reduce soil erosion along the edge(s) of a field		
	386	Field Border (acres)	E386B	Enhanced field borders to increase carbon storage along the edge(s) of the field		
			E386C	Enhanced field borders to decrease particulate emissions along the edge(s) of the field		
			E386D	Enhanced field borders to increase food for pollinators along the edge(s) of a field		
			E386E	Enhanced field borders to increase wildlife food and habitat along the edge(s) of a field		
	399	Filter Strips (acres)	E473A	Extend existing filter strip to reduce water quality impacts		
			412	Grassed Waterways (acres)	E481A	Enhance a grassed waterway
	484	Mulching (acres)	E484A	Mulching to improve soil health		
			E484B	Reduce particulate matter emissions by using orchard or vineyard generated woody materials as mulch		
484C		E484C	Reduce particulate matter emissions by using orchard or vineyard generated woody materials as mulch			
		585	Stripcropping (acres)	None Available		
601	Vegetative Barriers (feet)					
602	Herbaceous Wind Barriers (feet)					

- The IRA directs NRCS to use the additional funds specifically for **climate change mitigation**.
- Mitigation activities *reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve carbon storage*.
- FY23 list of **NRCS climate-smart mitigation activities:** nrcs.usda.gov/mitigation-activities.pdf
- NRCS is continually evaluating mitigation activities and IRA implementation approach and will update them as appropriate.
 - [Federal Register notice](#) (Nov. 21, 2022)

Facilitating Practices Enable Mitigation

Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)

Tree Shrub Site Preparation (490)
Access Control (472)

Conservation Crop Rotation (328)

Cover Crops (340)
Irrigation Water Management (449)
Pest Management Conservation System (595)

Waste Separation Facility (632)

Waste Transfer (634)
Roofs and Covers (367)

Prescribed Grazing (528)

Watering Facility (614)
Stream Crossing (578)
Fence (382)
Livestock Shelter Structure (576)

Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)

Brush Management (314)
Herbaceous Weed Treatment (315)
Prescribed Grazing (528)

- IRA funding can also be used for practices needed to *facilitate a mitigation practice*.
- Here are some examples of conservation systems that include mitigation practices and the practices that may be needed to facilitate them.



Oregon FY23 IRA funding



- EQIP - \$2,527,670
- CSP - \$5,287,342
- ACEP
 - national process for FY23
- RCPP
 - NFO coming this spring

State-Level Partnership Opportunities



- Announcements about state-level funding opportunities for partnerships are forthcoming

IRA and Western Water

- **Western Water and Working Lands Framework for Conservation Action** – identifies six major conservation challenges related to water supply in the West, guidelines for identifying vulnerable agricultural landscapes, and 13 strategies for delivering NRCS assistance for responding to the challenges. Funding from the IRA will support the climate-mitigation related strategies outlined in the framework.
- **SMART Nutrient Management** – NRCS is streamlining, using existing tools, and standing up new initiatives to expand the availability of nutrient management assistance for producers for the 2023 crop year. Funding from the IRA will support producers implementing nutrient management climate-mitigation strategies.



For Interested Producers



- Everyone has a part to play when it comes to delivering climate solutions, regardless of the size, location, or type of your operation
- If you've never applied, NRCS can help
- If you've applied before, and were not approved due to limited funding, try again in upcoming years!
- NRCS is also working hard to improve producer access to its programs and provide financial and technical assistance to improve your farm, ranch, urban operation or forest land
- Contact NRCS at your [local service center](#)

Applying for Programs in FY23



- NRCS accepts producer applications for its conservation programs year-round.
- Producers interested in **EQIP** or **CSP** should apply by their [state's ranking dates](#) to be considered for funding in the current cycle. Funding is provided through a competitive process.
- **ACEP** applications for the current IRA funding cycle must be submitted by **March 17, 2023**, for the first funding round.
- NRCS plans to roll out the next **RCPP** funding opportunity in early spring, which will include IRA funds for fiscal year 2023.



Natural Resources Conservation Service

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BIL, IRA, and USDA RD

Presented by Margi Hoffmann, State Director

USDA Rural Development Programs



USDA RD offers more than 40 programs that support rural America, including:

- Single-Family Housing Programs
- Multifamily Housing Programs
- Community Facilities Programs
- Business and Cooperative Programs
- Water and Environmental Programs
- Telecommunications Programs
- Electric Programs

BIL: ReConnect

Closing the Rural Digital Divide

- Access to reliable high speed internet is crucial for the prosperity of rural businesses and families.
- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides USDA with a \$2 billion investment through the ReConnect Program.
- ReConnect provides loans and grants toward construction costs, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service in eligible rural areas.



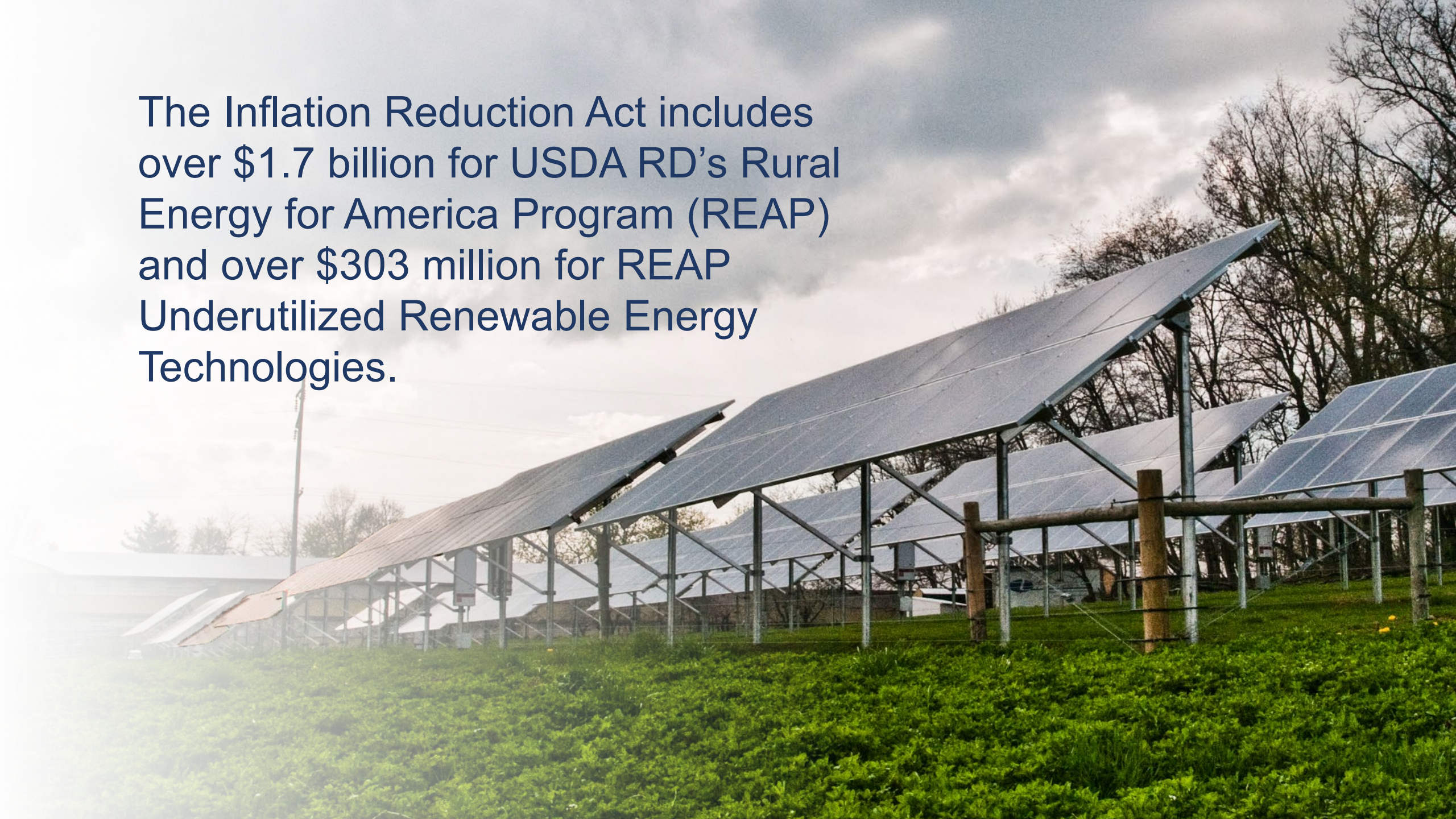
ReConnect: Oregon



- In FY2022 alone, USDA RD invested over \$63 million in Oregon broadband projects
- Clear Creek Communications received \$7 million to connect and improve broadband access for hundreds of homes in Clackamas County
- Oregon Telephone Company received \$20.4 million via loan and grant to provide high-speed internet access for thousands of rural residents and businesses in Eastern Oregon.

IRA: Rural Energy for America

The Inflation Reduction Act includes over \$1.7 billion for USDA RD's Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) and over \$303 million for REAP Underutilized Renewable Energy Technologies.



In FY2022, USDA RD Oregon invested over \$710,000 in renewable energy projects for Oregon ag producers and small businesses.

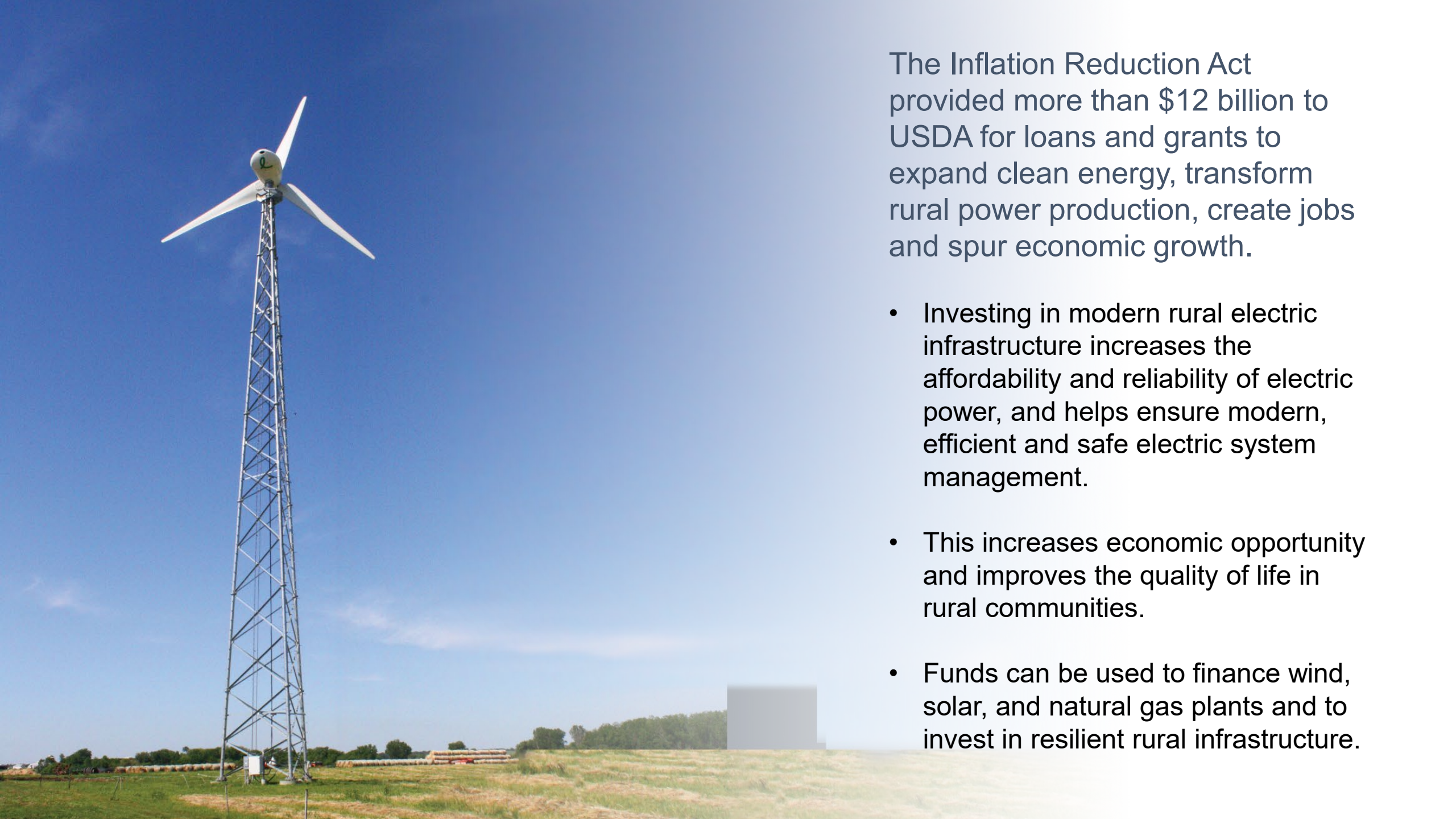


In Oregon, ag producers and small businesses use REAP to:

- Upgrade energy efficiency while reducing their carbon footprint.
- Replace some or all of their business's energy with renewable, resilient energy sources like solar arrays and biomass.
- Lower annual energy costs by thousands of dollars.



IRA: Electric Programs



The Inflation Reduction Act provided more than \$12 billion to USDA for loans and grants to expand clean energy, transform rural power production, create jobs and spur economic growth.

- Investing in modern rural electric infrastructure increases the affordability and reliability of electric power, and helps ensure modern, efficient and safe electric system management.
- This increases economic opportunity and improves the quality of life in rural communities.
- Funds can be used to finance wind, solar, and natural gas plants and to invest in resilient rural infrastructure.

Electric Loan Program: Oregon

- In January 2023, USDA RD Oregon awarded over \$89.6 million to expand and modernize part of Eastern Oregon's rural electric grid.
- Umatilla Electric Cooperative, which provides service to nearly 16,000 customers across Morrow, Umatilla, and Union counties, will use the funding to connect 645 new consumers and to build and improve 93 miles of line with smart grid technologies.
- Smart grid can be a catalyst for broadband and other telecommunications services in unserved and underserved rural areas in addition to improving grid security and reliability.



Contact Information

Assistance under USDA Rural Development programs is available to applicants in areas designated as “rural.” Under law, the definition of “rural area” is different for each program.

Contact your local USDA Rural Development office for more information.

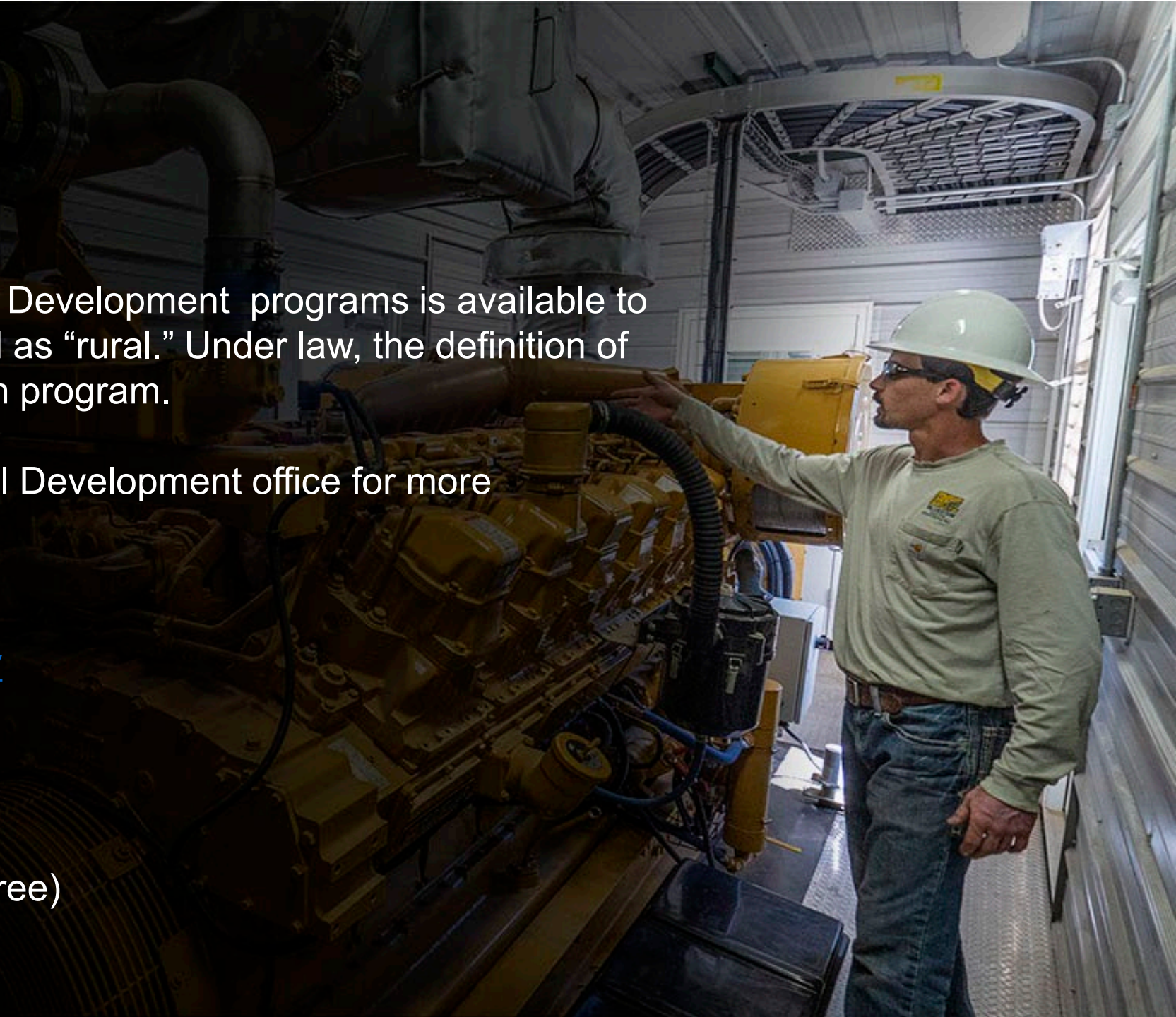
Margi Hoffmann

margaret.hoffmann@usda.gov

(503) 414-3305

Or go to: www.rd.usda.gov

Or call 1 (800) 670-6553 (toll free)





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Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Investing in Oregon's Forests

Andrew Johnson

March 2023

Wildfire Risk Reduction



\$1.4 BILLION

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

Reducing fuels like dead trees, dense vegetation, and other hazardous fuels

\$1.8 BILLION

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

Focused on wildfire risk reduction in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)

Wildfire Risk Reduction



\$53 MILLION, FY23 3 LANDSCAPES IN OREGON

Central Oregon Landscape

\$13.2 Million in FY23 to treat 23,800 acres

Mt. Hood Wasco County Collaborative

\$4.5 Million in FY23 to treat 4,400 acres

Klamath River Basin Landscape

\$35.4 Million in FY23 to treat 52,000 acres
In Oregon and California

Community Wildfire Defense Grants

\$23.5 MILLION to OREGON

10 COMMUNITY WILDFIRE DEFENSE GRANTS IN OREGON



Focused on wildfire risk reduction in and around communities

Restoration, Reforestation & Recreation



Aquatic and Forest Restoration

- \$4.3 million for 13 projects across 3 National Forests (IRA Funded)
- \$880 thousand for Collaborative Aquatic Landscape Restoration (CALR) Projects

Burned Area Recovery

- \$1.7 million for three projects

Legacy Roads & Trails

- \$1.35 million

Rec Sites and Cabins

- \$954 thousand for 7 projects

**Working
with the
State**

20 Year Plan

**Quantified Wildfire
Risk Assessment**

Summer 2023

STATE OF OREGON



1859

Taking Care of Our First Responders

New Wildland Firefighter Job Series

\$241 Million so far

Pay Supplements to 12,500
Firefighters

Health

Health and safety, including mental
health are top priorities



Ways to Engage



- **Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP)**
 - **2022:** \$31.1 million for 15 projects across Oregon, California, Colorado, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Washington.
- **Good Neighbor Agreements**
 - \$20 million nationally in FY23 for states, counties and Tribes
- **Community Wildfire Defense Grants (CWDG)**
 - \$197 Million to fund 100 projects in 22 states
- **Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership**
 - Enables NRCS and USFS to collaborate with landowners to invest in conservation and restoration at larger scale
- **REPLANT Act**
 - Historical opportunity to address post wildfire and other unplanned reforestation needs.



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Thank you

Links to Additional Resources

- [Wildfire Crisis Strategy](#)
- [Story Map](#)
- [Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program](#)
- [Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership](#)
- [Community Wildfire Defense Grants](#)
- [State Nurseries](#)
- [National Forest System- Reforestation Strategy](#)



Q&A IRA

Agency	Total IRA Funding Available FY23
FS	\$4.9B
NRCS	\$19.35B
RBCS Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)	\$2.52B
RUS Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) SEC 22001	\$1B (Utility-scale renewable E and storage forgivable loans)
EmPower Rural America Program SEC 22004	\$9.7B (Rural Electric Coops – loans, grants etc.)
Total	\$37.47B* (+Admin Funds = \$37.77B)