



# Water for Irrigation Streams & Economy

**HISTORY OF WISE** 

March 2012

## How did we get here?



# Steve Jobs was never part of this project.

- 2000 MWC IPOD Transfer Project
- MWC wanted to improve water quality at Duff Treatment Plant.
- Water from Little Butte Creek hugs bank to Duff.
- Simple idea to leave clean water instream and then pump up to Agate
- > Turned out to not be cost effective.

### IPOD grows into something bigger

- > 2001 LB/BC-WMP
- BOR just finished review of Rogue River Basin Project.
- Had similar goals as IPOD
  - Improved water quality
  - Improved irrigation
- Dustup over in Klamath
  - We want to be proactive not reactive

## And bigger still!

- ➤ LB/BC-WMP begins meeting with 20 to 45 people.
- Forms Project Advisory Committee (PAC)
- Begin to define the scope of the project.
  - Improve irrigation
  - Improve water quality
  - Reduce water temperature
  - No undue financial burden to the districts

### And still bigger!!!!

- City of Medford has temperature issues at RWRF
- Reclaimed effluent a possible solution
  - Cheaper than cooling
  - Pilot project initiated
  - Field trip to Salinas/Monterey to see reclamation on large scale.

#### Some money becomes available

- City of Medford puts up \$125K for Phase 1 of project.
- Develop scope of work for EIS.
- Receive Title II funds for outreach
  - Begin extensive outreach
  - > Rebrand project including logo and ...

### Renamed again for the last time

- 2003 Project renamed WISE
- Funding received through EPA via VAHUD
  - $\rightarrow$  ~\$1M for EIS
  - Knew more was needed but began the process using already develop SOW.
- > HDR Engineering was selected through RFP process.
- Began EIS ...



#### There were some hurdles to cross

- Congressional Authorization
  - Only took 4 years to get.
  - > Trips to DC.
  - Revised language
- Not enough \$\$ to finish FS/EIS
  - > Still needed another \$2.5M
  - Funds for BOR to act as lead agency
  - Took EIS up to Scoping
  - Completed Pre-Feasibility Study 2010



#### And here we are!

- Began process to find funds to complete FS/EIS.
- Changes in BOR led to new staff involvement.
- 2011 made request to Oregon Solutions
- > 2012 submitted grant to OWRD for CBA

#### Questions?

