

September 16, 2021

RE: Letter of Introduction for Field Surveys in Umatilla County, OR

Dear Resident,

Umatilla County has been working collaboratively with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Oregon State, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and local communities to better identify flood risk in the county. This effort includes a new flood study on several streams crossing county, city, and tribal lands that will ultimately be used to update the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map and provide the local jurisdictions with valuable flood risk information. Better identification of flood risk helps people determine their own priorities and take steps to reduce risk to lives and property. This data also supports communities in recovery efforts when disaster strikes.

A very important part of accurately assessing flood risk is field surveys, to understand how conditions on the ground may impact flooding. FEMA's contractor, STARR II (represented by Statewide Land Surveying, Inc.) will be conducting field surveys in the County during the next few months. The purpose of these surveys is obtaining channel cross-sections, identifying or establishing elevation reference marks, and obtaining the physical dimensions of hydraulic and flood control structures. The field surveyors will make every effort to stay on public land and rights-of-way; it may occasionally be necessary for the surveyors to briefly access privately owned property to gather survey information on stream channels, bridges, culverts, and dams. Should this occur in your area, a representative of Statewide Land Surveying, Inc. will attempt to contact the property owner in advance and seek permission to enter the property. Surveyors will not trespass and will only collect information related to flood risk. They will respect landowners' property and will not interfere with their use of it. Survey crews will be in and around the County from <u>September 2021 through March 2022</u>, and the fieldwork will be performed Monday through Sunday during daylight hours. Upon request, the surveyors will provide identification and this letter of introduction.

The participating jurisdictions respectfully request that the public allow Statewide Land Surveying, Inc. survey crews proper and safe access to the areas that are included in the attached project area map. This will allow us to prepare a more accurate assessment of flood risk in our community.

Thank you for your cooperation in this important effort. If you have any questions regarding this matter, feel free to contact one of the local community officials or federal partners identified below:

Matt Selzler, Project Engineer STARR II (919) 306-7724 <u>matt.selzler@stantec.com</u>

Dave Slaght, Administrator City of Echo (541) 376-6038 dave@echo-oregon.com

Clinton Spencer, Planning Director City of Hermiston (541) 667-5025 planning@hermiston.or.us Wendy Shaw, Regional Engineer FEMA Region X (425) 487-4636 wendy.shaw@fema.dhs.gov

Benjamin Burgener, Manager City of Stanfield (541) 449-3831 citymanager@cityofstanfield.org

George Cress, City Planner City of Pendleton (541) 966-0261 george.cress@ci.pendleton.or.us Paul Sclafani, Engineer **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland** (503) 808-4944 <u>paul.sclafani@usace.army.mil</u>

Brandon Seitz, Community Dev. Director City of Umatilla (541) 922-3226 brandon@umatillacity.org

> Patricia Perry, Senior Planner CTUIR (541) 429-7518 pattyperry@ctuir.org

Sincerely,

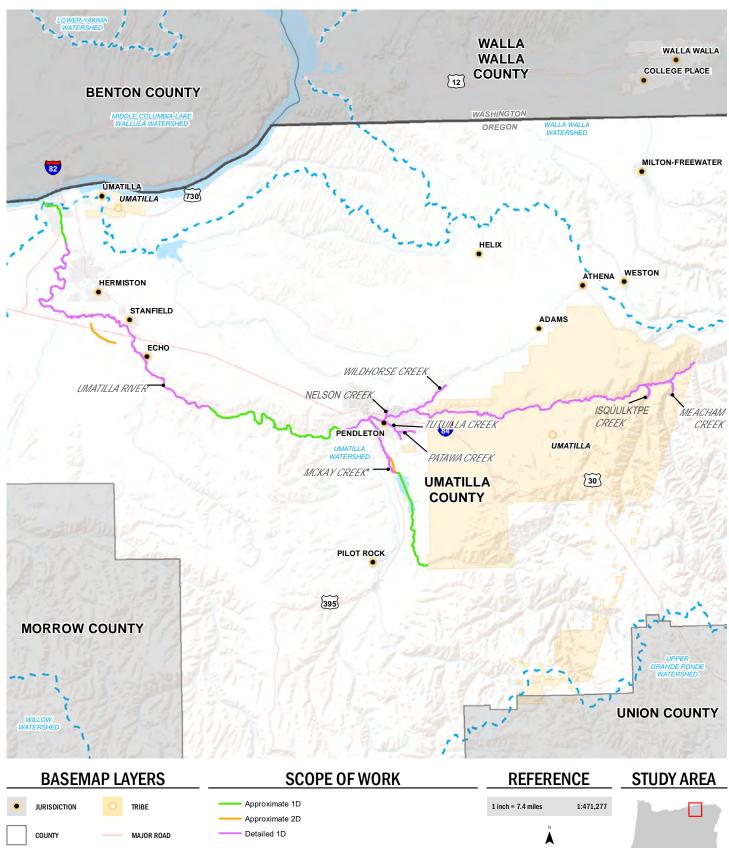
Bob Waldher, Planning Director Umatilla County (541) 278-6251 robert.waldher@umatillacounty.net

RiskMAP STUDY

Map Contains: PROJECT AREA MAP UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON

DATE August 2021 This is a non-regulatory product and is provided for information gathering and sharing purposes only.





Note

HUC8

WATERSHED

STATE

*McKay Creek - Hydrology & Hydraulics by ACOE All other study reaches - Hydrology by ACOE & Hydraulics by STARR II

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA