Irrigated Agriculture in Oregon

House Energy and Environment Committee

February 27, 2017

Irrigated Agriculture

- Farmers, ranchers, nursery, and other agricultural users putting water to "beneficial use" – growing food, forage, fiber products, stock water, etc.
- Sources of water: Surface water diversions, stored water, groundwater wells
- **More than 75% of Oregon's harvested crop value is produced using irrigation water from streams and rivers**
- Water is delivered by irrigation districts, water control districts, drainage districts, improvement districts, and other agricultural water suppliers; or provided by individual farmers and nurserymen
- **Average acre of irrigated land is worth $4,360 compared to $1,950 for non-irrigated acres—2.25x more!**

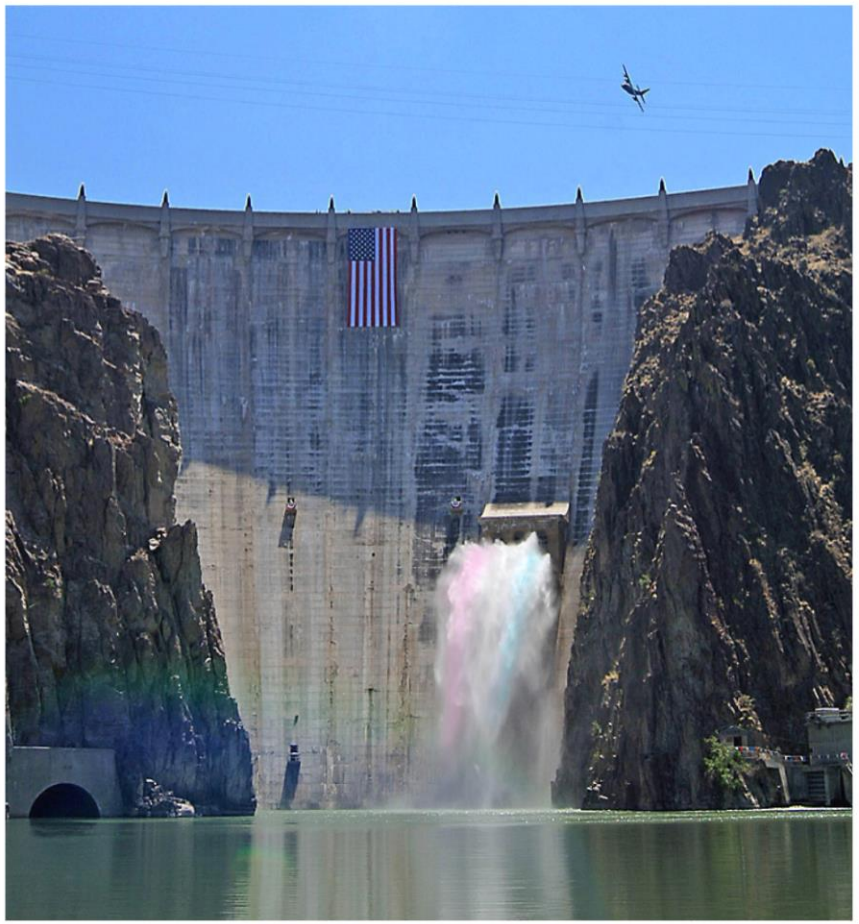
Benefits of Oregon Agriculture

- Oregon is #1 in the nation for Christmas trees, hazelnuts, loganberries, black raspberries, ryegrass seed, orchard grass seed, crimson clover, sugar beets for seed, red clover seed, fescue seed, blackberries, boysenberries, potted azaleas, and peppermint.
- Oregon is #2 in the United States for the production of hops, blueberries, and pears.
- Oregon agriculture production is valued at $5.4 billion, making it the second-largest economic driver in the state.
- About 80% of Oregon's ag production leaves the state, with about 40% leaving the country, thereby bringing in "new money" to the state.
- Oregon agriculture directly or indirectly supports more than 326,000 full or part-time jobs, making up almost 14 percent of total jobs in the state.
- Nationally, one farmer supplies food for about 155 people in the US and abroad, contributing to local and global food security

Canals, pipelines, ditches, and other water delivery systems


KOBELCO

Sources of water



Other Water Infrastructure

Headgates, pumps, fish screens, fish passage