

# EWEB Water Reliability Initiatives

February 1, 2022

Eugene Water & Electric Board





# Multiple Barrier Approach to Safe Drinking Water

- Source Water Protection
- Robust Water Treatment
- Secure Water Supply Network
- Water Quality Monitoring
- Emergency Preparedness



# Future Steps

EWEB has had a good track record delivering clean reliable and affordable drinking water. However, EWEB relies on a sole source of water – the McKenzie River. Recent events have underscored the need to diversify water supply and mitigate risk from:

- Harmful Algae Blooms/Cyanotoxins
- Wildfires
- Earthquakes
- Chemical Spills

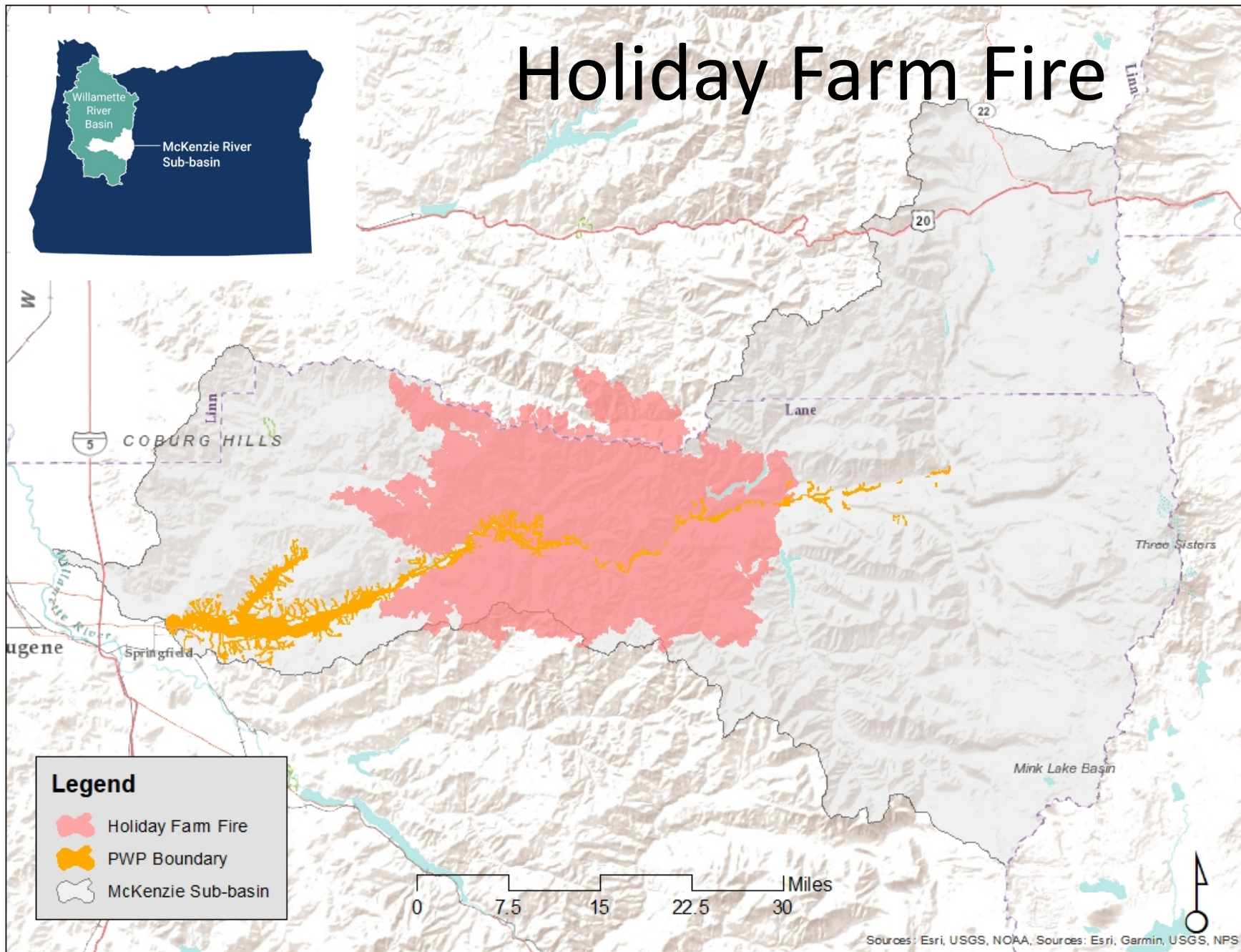


# Recent Investments

- \$30M in upgrades to existing Hayden Bridge Treatment Plant.
- \$4M for a new in-house water quality monitoring lab certified for cyanotoxins (one of only a few in-state) -- EWEB can test for other utilities.
- \$4M for onsite production of sodium hypochlorite disinfectant that is safer than chlorine gas and less vulnerable to supply disruptions and can be shared with neighboring utilities.
- \$2M for Emergency Water Stations distributed around Eugene.



# Holiday Farm Fire



## *Re-oriented* our Pure Water Partners Program



### Offered burn assessments to fire-affected landowners

- Required a signed access agreement to evaluate property
- Evaluated erosion concerns, hazard trees and soil conditions
- Made recommendations for short and long-term erosion control measures and replanting

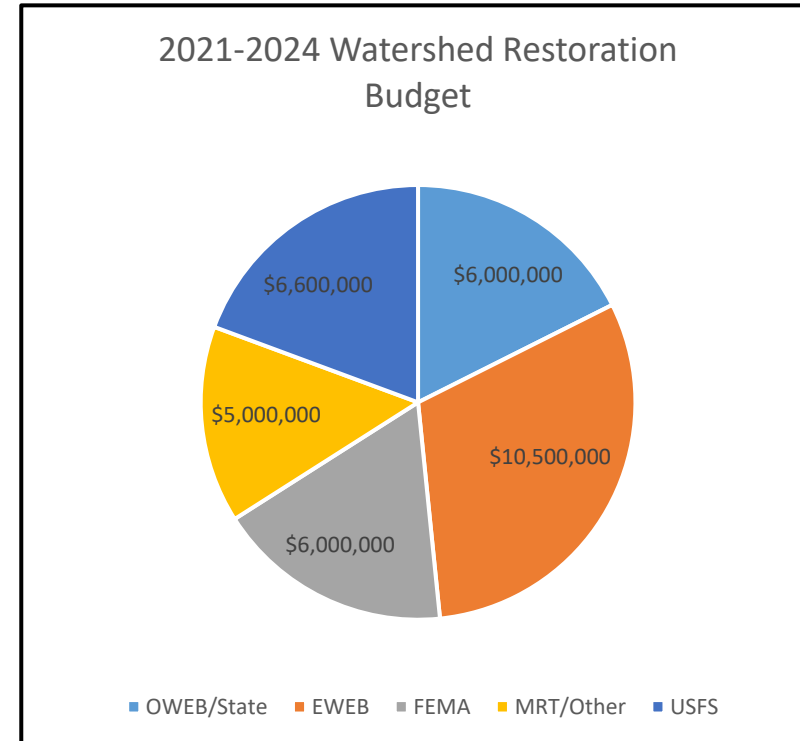
### Installed erosion control measures

- Wattles, silt fences, hydroseeding, seeding and mulch
- Required landowners to sign an agreement to allow for work on the ground



# Funding Summary

- EWEB Board approved Watershed Recovery surcharge (\$3/meter) that will sunset in 60 months raising \$12.3 million
  - Floodplain & Tributary Restoration
  - Riparian Revegetation
  - Floodway land acquisitions
  - Erosion, Invasive Weeds, Fuels Treatments
  - Septic systems, smarter rebuild incentives
  - Water quality monitoring
- State Legislature approved \$4 million for McKenzie restoration (via OWEB)
  - Floodplain & Tributary Restoration
  - Riparian Revegetation
  - Land acquisition
- State Legislature approved \$1.5 m for septic systems
- FEMA funding is pending (floodplain restoration)
- McKenzie River Trust matching EWEB w/\$3 million for floodway acquisitions
- USFS requesting \$6.6 m for floodplain restoration projects in McKenzie



# Future Funding Needs

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Water Treatment Plant on Willamette \$90,000,000
- Improved Powder Activated Carbon Treatment
- New or upgraded water transmission lines
- New or upgraded reservoirs
- Projected 35% EWEB rate increase over next 5 years



# Regional EWEB Water Resiliency Co-Benefits

- EWEB is a regional wholesale supplier of water to City of Veneta, Willamette Water Company, and others.
- EWEB Interconnects also with City of Springfield and Rainbow Water District.
- Local EWEB Water Quality Testing Capability and Sodium Hypochlorite Production that can be shared with neighbors.
- EWEB Water Trucks (deployed to Salem during Cyanotoxin).
- Applicant for pioneering municipal drinking water use of stored water in federal Willamette Project.



# Thank You!

