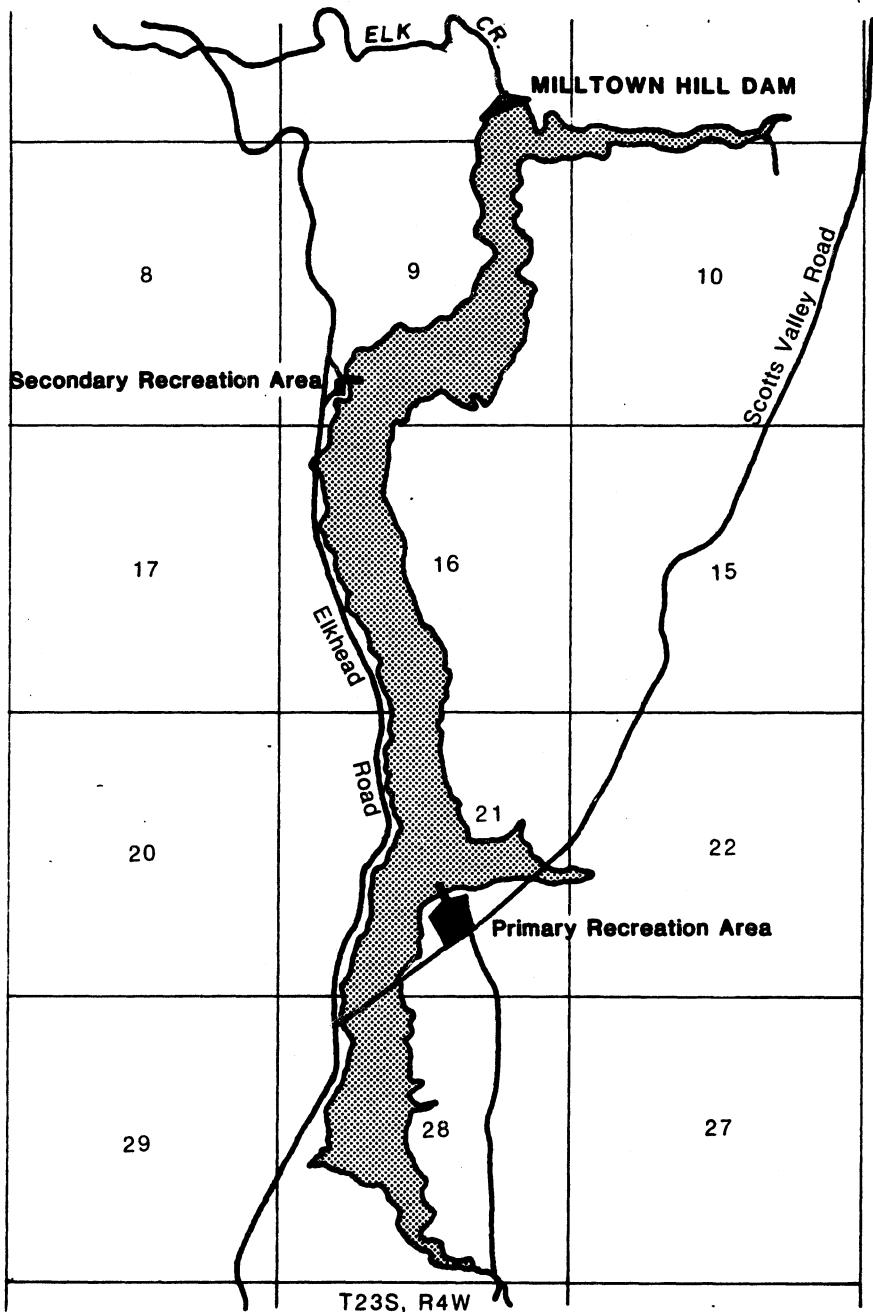


# MILLTOWN HILL PROJECT

## DOUGLAS COUNTY, OREGON

### FINAL

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

**FINAL**

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**MILLTOWN HILL PROJECT  
ELK CREEK SUBBASIN, UMPQUA RIVER BASIN  
DOUGLAS COUNTY, OREGON**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
IN COOPERATION WITH  
THE ROSEBURG DISTRICT BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
THE PORTLAND DISTRICT U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

Under provisions of the Small Reclamation Projects Act (Public Law 84-984, as amended), Douglas County has applied to the Bureau of Reclamation for a Federal loan to develop a dam, reservoir, and related facilities at the Milltown Hill site on Elk Creek.

This Environmental Impact Statement addresses the construction and operation of the proposed Milltown Hill Project. The project consists of a 186-foot high dam and 24,143-acre foot reservoir on Elk Creek which would provide regulated flows of water for irrigation of up to 4,661 acres of arable land, storage and distribution of water to the cities of Drain and Yoncalla and the community of Rice Hill, allow municipal expansion and industrial diversification, provide a reliable source of water for rural domestic use, provide opportunities to improve fish and wildlife habitat, improve water quality, and provide new water-related recreational facilities. It would also provide limited flood control in and near the city of Drain, and provide the opportunity to secure 767 additional acres of habitat for the Columbian white-tailed deer as a project mitigation measure. A portion of the stored water would be released directly into Elk Creek to enhance water quality and anadromous fish habitat, and to meet the out-of-stream needs of municipal, industrial, and agricultural users. The remainder of the stored water would be released into a pipeline distribution system which would improve municipal, industrial and irrigation water supplies to Scotts Valley and Yoncalla Valley, and provide an additional water supply for rural domestic use in these areas.

The draft environmental impact statement was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and made available to the public on December 11, 1991 (DES 91-33). The draft statement was also used to obtain public review and comment on wetlands protection (Executive Order 11990) and floodplain management (Executive Order 11988).

The final environmental impact statement incorporates updates in impact and economic analyses and presents the results of agency and public review of the draft environmental impact statement. Based on that review, it has been determined that (1) no significant changes are required in the proposed project and (2) the analyses presented in the draft environmental impact statement remain valid as updated in the final statement.

Federal decision on the proposed project will not be made until at least 30 days after this final environmental statement has been filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and the "Notice of Availability" has appeared in the Federal Register. During that 30-day period, written comments on the content of the final environmental impact statement will be accepted at the address shown below. These comments will be considered in the Federal decision process.

For further information regarding the processing or content of this document, contact:

Regional Environmental Officer  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Box 043 550 West Fort Street  
Boise, Idaho 83724

(208) 334-9442

Statement Number: FES 92-19

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