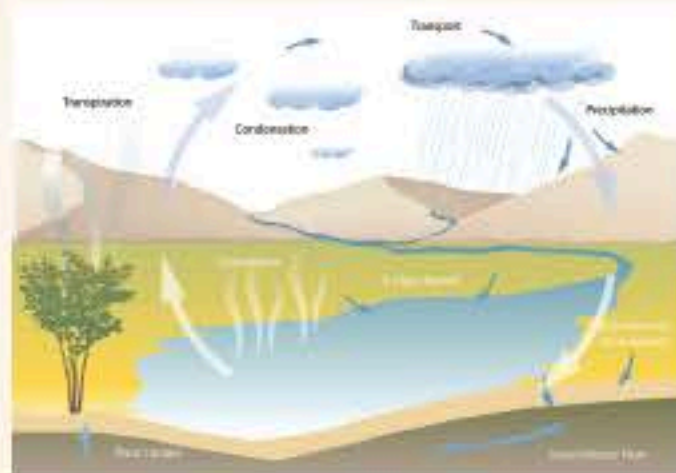




Crooked River Watershed

Helping water on its way to the Columbia

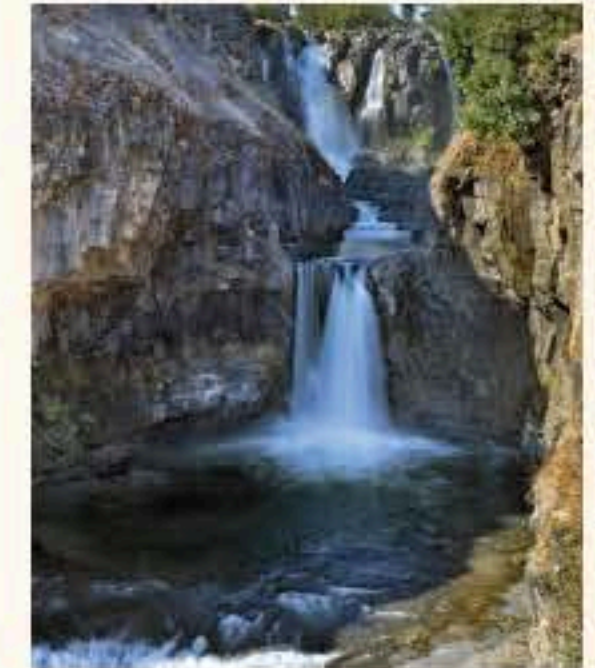
A watershed is an area of land where all precipitation drains to a common water body, such as a river or a lake. The Crooked River Watershed's main tributaries funnel to the Columbia River via the Deschutes River. Watersheds are not made of water, but of land. The Crooked River Watershed is a diverse landscape with deep canyons, high mountain meadows and arid deserts. It contains about three million acres, with about 4,500 square miles of land and 9,548 miles of streams. The highest point in the watershed is 6,926 feet at Lookout Mountain and the lowest point is 1,900 feet at Lake Billy Chinook.



In healthy watersheds, native vegetation and wetlands intercept snow and rain, slowing the flow of water as it travels through the watershed. This natural filtration process removes pollutants and allows water to percolate into the ground, replenishing groundwater supply.



The water treatment project provides new habitat for the river, enabling mature trees to establish on riparian areas, and releasing cool, clean water to the river, providing relief for fish from high summer water temperatures.



If you visit at different times during the year, you'll see how the Crooked River changes in appearance. It can have a low flow and look clear, yet other times it will have a high flow and appear cloudy, carrying wood and other debris downriver.



The Crooked River Watershed is a working lands watershed, meaning most of the private lands are directly producing some type of agricultural or forestry product. The top five agricultural commodities of the watershed are cattle and calves, miscellaneous crops, hay and grass seed, wheat, and vegetables.



Thanks to:
Crooked River Watershed Council and its many
key partners.

Find out more
<http://crookedriver.deschutesriver.org>

