



Size: 360,000 gpd

Cost: \$2,400,000

Completion: Spring 2003

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The construction of a slow sand filter for the City of Sumpter was completed in August. An administrative order was issued in January, 1992, for violation of the original Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR). The City constructed slow sand filters in the 1970's at the McCully Fork watershed, but the system could not consistently meet the filtration requirements for several reasons. The

2 filter cells could not be independently drained for scraping, so the water supply was not filtered during cleaning events. Also, the filter site is difficult to access in the winter time, so the filters had to be taken off line due to freezing or maintenance problems. In addition, the City has water rights for two other surface sources, but since they are located downstream from the McCully Fork filters, they could not be used.

The total project cost was \$2.25 million, and includes a 300,000 gallon reservoir near the filter plant, a 75,000 gallon high level storage tank, and distribution system improvements. The new, 3 cell, 3,600 sq. ft. slow sand filter is located on City owned property above town near the original 100,000 gallon wood tank. Design capacity is 240,000 gpd. Funding was provided by USDA Rural Utilities Service, and included a \$1.3 million grant and \$805,000 loan. OECD also contributed a \$103,000 grant to the project. The estimated average monthly residential user rate is \$35.40, divided between property taxes and water use rates.

The consulting engineer is HGE, Inc., and the general contractor is Michael Becker.

SUMPTER SLOW SAND FILTER

Sumpter, Oregon

Sumpter's water sources are very pristine, high mountain streams. The city had never filtered their water, and were mandated to construct a filtration system in order to comply with the Surface Water Treatment Rule. HGE completed a pilot study which demonstrated that slow sand filtration is a suitable treatment technology for the city's water sources. HGE was retained to design a 360,000 gallon per day slow sand filter, two water reservoirs (100,000 gallon and 300,000 gallon capacities) and approximately 28,000 feet of water distribution mains. HGE helped secure funding for the \$2.7 million project, which includes approximately 70 percent grants, and assisted with the successful public education program that resulted in passage of the bond election to secure local match.



The project was completed in the summer of 2002, and we were successful in obtaining an additional grant of \$300,000 to allow for replacement of major portions of the City's water transmission main.