

STATE-SUPPORTED REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT WORK GROUP

Meeting Summary

May 3, 2022 from 11:00am-3:00pm

Zoom Meeting

ACTION ITEMS:

ACTION	BY WHOM?	BY WHEN?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Crosswalk IWRS and 100 Year Water Vision Language to add to the essential elements framing	WRD staff	Before next meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Coordinate supplementary learning opportunities around identified topics	OC	Ongoing

Meeting Attendees:

Work Group Members: Adam Denlinger, Kathleen George, Kelly Timchak, Ana Molina, Anton Chiono, April Snell, Caylin Barter, Chandra Ferrari, Chrysten Rivard, Colby Drake, Dan Thorndike, Dan Newberry, Holly Mondo, Jennifer Wigal, Kate Fitzpatrick, Kimberley Priestley, Margaret Magruder, Morgan Gratz-Weiser, Oriana Magnera, Peggy Lynch, Bobby Bruno, Tom Byler, JR Cook, Bob Rees, Niki Iverson, Mary Anne Cooper, Calla Hagle, Donna Beverage, Kathleen George

Other Attendees: Representative Reardon, Representative Helm, Representative Owens, Kim Fritz-Ogren (WRD), Lili Prah (WRD), Nirvana Cook (WRD)

Facilitation Team: Robin Harkless and Jennah Stillman, Oregon Consensus

MEETING SUMMARY:

Welcome and Introductions

Robin welcomed the group and reflected on the last work group meeting in April, where some had lingering questions regarding the charge and scope of this effort. To follow up, Robin shared that the Oregon Consensus and Water Resources Department staff teams worked together to compile an organizational framework of high-level, essential elements for the water planning and implementation system, at the water region and basin level. The Coordinating Committee had a chance to review and provide some initial feedback on this framework as well. These features were culled from guiding documents, past processes, and the work group’s conversations to date, and would be further discussed later in the meeting. Following this, she invited opening remarks from the legislative leaders who had championed this effort and helped to initiate the work group process.

Representative Owens acknowledged that the WRD Place-Based Planning Pilot program will sunset in 2023 and currently does not have a path forward. He shared his hope for the work group to develop an option for the legislative process that advises the next iteration to better support communities in planning, and to identify additional areas of state-support needed to achieve better outcomes. He spoke about the work group’s responsibility to help the state and communities better

develop this framework that integrates all voices and identifies what data and information is needed, in order to meet water needs now and in the future. Representative Helm spoke about the reality of an ongoing drought condition that illuminates the need for communities to better plan for and adapt to climate change while protecting multiple values and uses, and implored this group to help this effort and WRD by creating new approaches. Representative Reardon echoed the remarks mentioned previously and shared that he looks forward to seeing and supporting what this work group puts forward.

Holly Mondo then shared a brief overview of the Coordinating Committee's discussion around developing the agenda and essential elements foundational platform. She acknowledged that because previous water planning approaches have generally occurred in siloes, it was important for the work group to assess and streamline these standards articulated in past forums and products, determine which features, roles and resources need to be further defined, and identify gaps going forward. In order to continue fostering an ongoing learning process, Holly shared that there would be opportunities in-between meetings to further explore topics and record those sessions so that work group members can participate or watch later.

Following up on the April 5 work group meeting, Robin noted that some minor edits regarding technical clarifications of the planning presentations had been received and integrated into an updated version. She invited any additional comments or edits on this before formally approving them. One work group member requested additional time to review the notes, and another member requested that any updated versions include redline edits to highlight changes. Robin then provided a review of the agenda, which she noted was intended to set the stage for an in-person meeting in June.

Oregon Water Resources Department Updates

Tom Byler, WRD, acknowledged that regional water planning and management may mean different things to different people, and asked the work group members to consider 1) the fact that Oregon is in an era of water scarcity; 2) how to develop an actionable plan with potential projects to respond to underserved areas or critical needs; and 3) a process to support successful project implementation for state funding and tangible results. He spoke about this group's opportunity to provide recommendations to the legislature and next Governor, and how, if those are acted upon, it can help support the state's water management system and issues going forward. He then offered suggested topics for the work group to consider such as the state's role, improving funding processes, essential criteria in order to access funding as a public resource investment, and what it should look like for the state to help with the full arc of data for planning, plan development and then transitioning to implementation. Following this, Tom shared that the Tribe-Agency Water Vision Task Force would commence in June, and also clarified that it will be a more formal engagement space for sovereign entities and the state to exchange information between tribes and agencies regarding water interests and authority responsibilities. He also spoke about the IWRS update and noted that the formal update had been delayed due to funding priorities passed in the 2021 legislative session that would

support informing the update, including recommendations generated in this work group forum. Additionally, Tom shared that the state's Water Core Team (consisting of deputy level representatives from OWRD, DEQ, ODFW, ODA, OWEB, ODF, ODOT, ODOE, OSMB, DLCD, Business Oregon, Governor's Office, Regional Solutions, OHA, and DSL) meets twice per month to coordinate on various water issues. He noted that the Water Core Team space can be used to update all agencies about this work group effort, and WRD can work with the Water Core Team to directly engage additional agencies for work group conversations down the road as needed.

Essential Elements Framework

Robin circled back to the essential elements framing and reminded the group that these high-level features were reflected in various ways in the IWRS, 100 Year Water Vision, Place-based Planning Guidelines and evaluation, and in work group conversations to date, and were intended to be an initial organizing feature. She spoke about the intention to help the group determine where its focus and deliberations should be with regards to what more needs to be defined or structured, and roles and responsibilities of the State to support and uphold the elements. Reflections from work group members included, but were not limited to: acknowledgement of different types of planning and the spectrum of phases and necessary tools that may exist to meet different communities needs; acknowledgement that some elements address process and others address policy; a question about whether 'upholding water as a public resource should be renamed to 'recognized by the state'; a question about where resources and timing definition shows up in all elements; a question about where assessing 'readiness' comes in; a suggestion to reference specific language from guiding documents wherever possible as to avoid reinventing the wheel; and acknowledgement that planning is intrinsically linked to implementation, and that the essential elements may need to go further to bridge and support this connection. Some specific verbiage and organizing suggestions were made as well, as captured below.

Initial suggestions from work group members regarding sub-elements, definitions, or roles/responsibilities included, but were not limited to:

Accountability

- To elevate comfort and create more trust, planning groups could document and acknowledge how they have addressed each of the elements/issues to ensure the process is being followed
- Meet in and out of stream needs
- State recognition of a plan
- Define ownership of management for projects
- Develop a pathway to implementation

Informed and Engaged Community

- Maintain an open and transparent process
- Make sure everyone's interests and needs are represented

Planning Coordination and Capacity

- Unbiased facilitator

- Financial resources to support and sustain efforts.
- State agency to provide technical expertise to analyze data or answer lines of inquiry

Scope and Sideboards

- Balance of interests
- Agency capacity and participation (and necessary funding to support participation)
- Clarify and uphold the foundational law of state and authority to implement law and manage water resources

Tribal Water Perspectives Panel

Robin shared that in following the group's line of inquiry around how different communities relate to water, Oregon's water system and regional planning, that the tribal representative work group members were willing to share their perspectives about each of their sovereign nations' and tribal communities' experiences, interests, and connections to water and regional planning.

Calla Hagle, Burns Paiute Tribe, spoke about her involvement in the Harney Basin Place-based Planning pilot and noted issues regarding missing data and limited capacity for tribal participation. She shared that the basin had been overallocated even prior to the planning process beginning, which led to difficult decisions that needed to be made. Recognizing that tribes are sometimes not consulted for meaningful input early and often in a planning process (by both state agencies and regional communities), she acknowledged the importance of defining and honoring the tribal consultation process, when it should begin, how to do so meaningfully, and how to support ongoing engagement.

Bobby Brunoe, Warm Springs Tribe, discussed the importance of water to their tribe, and how it is honored in all ceremonies and integrated into the core of all staff roles and responsibilities. He also spoke about the importance of data and the need for more basin-level information, the importance of proper funding to have good collaborative conversations, the need to identify what policies are currently in place, any areas for policy adaptivity in the future, as well as the tribe's capacity challenges in trying to participate in different forums.

Kathleen George, Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, acknowledged that she was speaking as a Tribal Council member today and discussed the interconnectedness of tribal identity and culture with water and fisheries, the need for healing, and an issue of great urgency. She reflected on the history of Oregon's water rights system, recognizing that rights were distributed when many tribes were being federally terminated and that many historic issues and institutional inequities are still present today. Noting the enduring impact of this policy, she also affirmed the obstacles that the nine remaining federally recognized tribes continue to face coming to the table, capacity challenges to participate when invited, different power dynamics within different regions, and tribal exclusion that still exists. She also acknowledged that water rights adjudication for tribes is not an enduring solution, nor without its own challenges, as some tribes still do not have these rights and the process takes a very long time.

Anton Chiono, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, acknowledged the foundational importance and interconnectedness of water and the tribe's overall approach to managing for ecosystem health, function and sustainability. He reflected on the tribe's past involvement in water planning across the region and an overall challenge with lack of fundamental data to engage in effective planning, management and policy decisions (particularly for in-stream). He also noted that many efforts had been discontinued due to lack of funding. His takeaways from the Place-Based Planning process highlighted the need for more state agency funding and capacity for staff to participate in planning efforts, and the need for further definition around who gets a seat at the regional table and tribal engagement (not just those affected by planning in a particular basin, but also treaty rights and broader public trust considerations).

The key themes from follow-up questions and comments included, but were not limited to:

- Recognizing tribes' differences in capacity, support may be needed to bring tribes to the table and meaningfully represent their interests and needs in a process.
- It is important to have conversations about how tribes would like to be engaged early on, but ultimately not to slow the process down (like this one).
- It is important to develop a foundational understanding of tribal rights (treaties, adjudication, etc.) and incorporate them in the beginning of a planning process as sideboards.
- Expectations and approaches for NGO partnering with Tribes vary. Recognizing that engagement can lead to strong partnerships, this requires initial learning and reaching out to initiate connections to form the relationships necessary to partner. In general, NGOs should meet with technical-level staff but also acknowledge that there are many different NGOs, and not all may want or need to be engaged from a tribal perspective.
- Acknowledge the difference between technical 'c' consultation (such as this effort) and formal tribal council/government level 'C' consultation.

Essential Elements for Water Region or Basin Planning and Implementation

Following up on the 'essential elements' framing approach, Tom Byler, WRD, briefly spoke about the importance of having standards for a water region or basin level planning, in order to enable and guide state investments, resources, and support in planning efforts going forward. He shared that this work group could help identify where and what those standards should be, and where prescription was not needed in order to maintain flexibility. In order to access certain state funding or other resources, what features should be present, defined and evaluated?

Robin then invited the work group members to engage with one another in small group conversations around one of the proposed essential features, 'Informed and Engaged Communities,' which she noted had arisen in each meeting to date, and related to the tribal perspectives panel. She asked the work group to discuss why it is important for the overall system, what the defining attributes were, and whether the state should have a specific role in partnering, assuring or assisting with this?

The work group members then went into breakout group discussion and the following is a summary of the verbal report-outs provided by each breakout group to the full work group. To review the full raw notes captured by each breakout group that chose to do so, please see the appendix.

Importance: In general, it was noted that informing, engaging and supporting communities in regional planning is important to build a shared understanding about problems or opportunities, and to be intentional about initiating conversations rather than responding to crises. A transparent and inclusive planning process can help create trust amongst a group and build longevity for an effort. Bringing as many perspectives as possible into the planning process will incorporate an array of knowledge, create a deeper sense of ownership, aim to avoid conflict or opposition to an effort down the line, and ultimately develop a more informed plan with better outcomes.

Defining Characteristics:

- Strong leader and/or skilled facilitator to manage the process
- Articulate the goal, the community the effort is serving, and who needs to be included (local interests, statewide interests, relevant state agencies, multi-generational perspectives)
- Tribal engagement
- Invite all perspectives at the table, and identify who may be missing before the process starts
- Initiate building relationships and trust before a process starts
- Determine methods of transparency and accountability (metrics of success and responsibility for tracking)
- Build a foundational understanding of the framework the effort is operating within (state and federal law, treaty rights, data, allocations, etc)
- Share information back out into the broader community
- Discuss and plan for capacity for long term engagement and adaptive management

State Role:

- Ensure there is sustainable resourcing to support planning duration (bridging biennial funding)
- Provide funding for a skilled and neutral facilitator
- Provide existing data from all relevant state agencies for each region (water supply, demand, etc), help identify a baseline and any data gaps, conduct measurement and reporting, help track data progress
- Provide resources for outreach, communication, education, engagement and capacity building throughout the process
- Support agency participation at the planning table and provide technical expertise to participate when requested
- Encourage interagency coordination and integration
- Develop a funding process similar to watershed council development/funding process
- Provide guidance/best practices/expectations document on how to inform and engage communities in planning (especially for under resourced communities) and sideboards of

what that looks like for the state standard (broad list of definitions for who should be included)

- Support capacity building
- Uphold legal responsibilities (authority) around basin planning.

In closing, Robin shared that the work group's next meeting would be an in-person work session on June 7th from 10am-3pm in Bend, and would focus on moving forward from the 'essential elements' framing to determine where improvements are needed in the system of water planning and transitioning a plan to implementation, and developing initial concepts around how to do so. Following the work session, there will be a hosted happy hour for work group members and a potential field tour in the morning of June 8th (which will be determined by critical mass). She noted that resources are available to support work group member participation, mileage reimbursement, and provided lodging and food. If someone is not able to attend in-person but may be interested in sending an alternate, to provide a proxy on behalf of the organization or entity that they are representing, to reach out to Robin to discuss that approach. Virtual participation may be an option, but is not preferred. She shared that Oregon Consensus will continue to work with the Coordinating Committee to further develop the plan for this gathering.

She reminded the group about the ongoing learning opportunities that can be coordinated to support the needs of the group and set-up separately from the meetings going forward and will be made available to all as a resource and reference. To date, the additional primary recurring learning topic requests include: 1) What have other states done and standardized regarding certain features of regional water planning and state integration; 2) Watershed Councils history, funding structure, operation and state relationship; 3) Water Futures Project and any current/in development water-related, environmental justice policies. She invited work group members to please share additional questions or suggestions as they emerge, and will provide more information on these upcoming learning opportunities as details come together. Robin also noted that if the group is interested in meeting in-person more frequently (in addition to the scheduled June 7, September 6, and December 6 dates), to share that and could be accommodated. Following this, the meeting was adjourned.

Appendix

INFORMED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITIES

Breakout Group Discussion Notes May 3, 2022

1. Why is it important for the overall system?
2. What are the defining attributes/characteristics or conditions?
3. Should the state have any specific role in partnering, assuring or assisting this element? If so, in what way/context?

Group 1 (Anton, April, Colby, Dan T, Kelly, Morgan)

Importance: Water is important to everyone. Important to bring everyone to a level playing field of understanding different water uses. It shouldn't take a crisis to get everyone to the table, but that is often how it goes.. If there is a structure, then it may lead to more productive conversations and take us out of reactive mode into proactive mode. Without available resources, then the problems continue to increase or even compound. Building in shared understanding around climate change is important - this is a big topic (bigger than all of us individually). More engagement/understanding can lead to better outcomes. Fix things now to avoid larger problems later. If people aren't at the table, the solution may not be as effective, or there may even be a legal problem with a third party at some point in the process.

Defining Attributes/Conditions Etc.: Inclusivity and openness. Be intentional in your reach. Show up to the same table, give your time. Be present. Find a coordinated space to “place everything” so that when water users want to know where to go, that all the communication pieces are coordinated and connected. Providing educational meetings, scoping meetings, engaging with council and membership. Ongoing outreach needs to continue, and the opportunity needs to be available to all who want to participate. Build in more time for relationship building and make our interactions less transactional. Coordinate engagement across layers, and how coordination can come out between all those entities in a more coordinated way. Make sure info is available in different languages, forms, etc. Provide flexibility in participating - input at different points in process, available from different platforms (like virtual/in-person/field/etc.).

State's Role: Funding and informational/data support. Specialist support, capacity. Step in to assist with data gaps. State should recognize importance in the continuation of convening people and providing information. Sometimes you don't need everyone at the table, but they still need to be informed. State truly needs more capacity in regional agency staff – more funding at the local level. Specialist staff levels are low statewide, and restoring these specialists would be key to local communities to build on trust and close data gaps. Put people on the ground – keep the on-the-ground context and understanding. Put an assistance “structure” in place (think OWEB regional review team model).

Group 2 (Bob, Kate, Kathleen, Margaret, Tom)

Facilitator's Note: This group chose not to document notes along the way but shared a verbal report-out, as captured in the meeting summary.

- 1) Necessary for durable and sustainable solutions, and plans. Opens up opportunities for understanding different perspectives and values.

Group 3 (Calla, Chrysten, Kimberley, Niki, Oriana)

- There's various types of planning and which one/ones we're talking about it changes the framing
 - Our charge feels challenging because there are different layers at the state level
 - The state could provide guidance when they're involved
 - Not making assumptions about who a group represents
 - When state gives funding the same expectations may come into play
 - When it's not statewide, need **guidance and best practices (like a guide document)**
 - Layers of state engagement versus sovereign engagement varies by type of planning
- Not waiting to reach out, especially to tribal governments when things are under way but **building relationships and trust where possible early**
 - Helps overcome fears and helps address and create space to deal with conflict
 - Better practice that can help avoid conflict and litigation
- With tribal governments (and community orgs) need time for review of materials (like a plan), process, relationship etc.
 - Step of consultation with agencies at government to government level after initial technical staff review
- Coordination across agencies can be challenging (ex. could address quantity issue but never touch on quality with agency siloing)
 - We have distinct legal authority and it's hard to reach a good outcome without buy in from all stakeholder groups
 - **Need to build best practices around building scope and sideboards for planning groups**
 - Not uncommon to have a conversation with one agency and follow up conversation with another agency and the opinions conflict
 - **Create better coordination between agencies as a best and standard practice**
 - **Need for adequate funding for agencies and engagement and process work**
- Around the definition of included communities, there are groups that represent the public interest of water statewide; some planning groups embrace this and others do not

- Include groups that represent statewide water issues
- Around the definition of informed communities, there's a real need for data -- not just what we know but what we don't know in a basin
 - **Start doing basin assessments; include relationship and community mapping and address what's known and in existence and where there are gaps**
 - Need to know where the water is
- When there's a lot of community engagement up front and a process takes years, people fall off and can't keep up with those conversations
 - People feel disillusioned years into a process; **people want to see progress and transparency**
- Always comes back to capacity
- Water management and measurement sometimes happens at the community level when there's a framework in place
 - Municipalities have requirement around measurement; is there funding to help small farmers/communities benefit from measurement?
 - Measurement can help people make good business decisions
 - Data is a key piece
 - **Measurement and reporting is important to building trust and transparency**
 - Public resources are often/should be tied to reporting
 - **Lack of data at the beginning can derail a process**
- **If time is spent on these efforts then they need to be supported and funded** by the state – it's demoralizing when people put in effort and it isn't amplified.
- **Education and capacity building are important to bring communities along**
 - **Two-way flow of information and questions**
 - When you wait until there's a crisis to do an education event, people are crisis-oriented
 - We need this kind of work to be **statewide and proactive**
 - **We need sustainable tables that can help people understand why this work and data is important**
- **Need a base of relationships and data to be ready for any process**
 - WRD Deschutes process - policy/regulatory trigger, first six months were focused on understanding data, science around groundwater interference issues
 - That foundation, sideboards, and data was important for setting people up to have the hard conversations
- Need to not do everything at once; baseline setting is important and setting clear process steps especially around data
 - Helps people start from similar places
 - No disagreements on all of the data that is needed
- Stipending and valuing people's time as organizations or community members is important to help people come to the table

- Big for community organizations, small governments, tribal governments, rural communities
 - Also lack staff and capacity to do work internally
- **State should create fund for this work**
 - Need avenue for people to apply for funding to be at the table and manage the work – shouldn't be role of watershed councils
 - Hard to get funders to cover staff time for processes without good sideboards and timelines – state/planning processes is a better source
- Stipends don't address capacity issues or long term resources and needs like creating full positions
- Planning efforts don't replace the responsibilities or authorities of the state
 - Plans may inform the state, but the state still has legal requirements and authority around managing water in basins and planning should not dilute this

Group 4 (Daniel N, Holly, Mary Anne, Donna, Peggy)

Overall System –

- In any planning process, important to have the people that process will impact in the room and at the table - creates a sense of ownership, and allows them to take the reins of what's going to happen to their future. It makes the process a lot smoother, and creates trust and longevity into the planning process. They are able to also communicate out to their community.
- Eventually it's about ownership - if you have ownership in the product, you will support the product and make sure it moves forward and gets funded. Ensures all relevant information is brought forward and considered by the group and that results in a more robust plan.
- The more people at the table, the more information you have about the area - everyone will have different pieces of information to add to the discussion. It makes whatever comes from that planning process more robust. The system that does planning is less likely to see litigation - if no one is excluded, it makes for a better overall product.

Defining Attributes -

- All interested parties at the table, a skilled facilitator who can work amongst the various interests, the data from the various state agencies for that region (demand, available supply, water quality).
- Balance between local and statewide interests? Want to have strong local engagement, but there are statewide groups (not agencies) who should be engaged. Various perspectives on the correct balance between state and local interests, and whether they are distinct interests.
- Need to ensure tribal engagement, and their reservations might not line up with the full extent of their ancestral homeland.

- The state government is not the biggest interest, but must be there. The various state agencies involved in water quality and quantity must be there as relevant to each region. They will need staffing to do this.
- Transparency and accountability is a critical attribute of an informed community.
- Metrics - a way to know that what has been accomplished is the outcome that the community is looking for, and assurance whether it happened. Need to define what are the deliverables for the plan in terms of what you are trying to accomplish - is it a plan? Something else? Question about whether deliverables were possible to define early on.

State Role in Informed and Engaged Communities:

- Think there needs to be some sideboards from the state on what an informed and engaged community table looks like (i.e. what stakeholders are at the table and who is not), especially because we hope the state will fund these efforts and help with implementation. *Broad types of groups that should be included.*
- Concern noted about impact to process if the state disagrees about whether a group was representative/had all necessary people at the table at the end - that needs to be dealt with up front. Having those sideboards/guidelines will be really helpful to make sure that during the planning process, the community is meeting those foundational expectations. *Making sure that the state agrees you have the right people/groups represented.*
- Because we are dealing with so many statutes and rules, important to have the state provide some legal guidance to the groups from time to time.
- The state wants feedback from regions on what they think the state should do - the state doesn't have it all figured out. It's an opportunity for communities to engage with the state about what an informed community looks like - it can be an ongoing dialogue.

Group 5 (Caylin, Chandra, Jennifer, JR, Bobby, Kim)

- **ROUGH NOTES - free form conversation**
- "Included" is important - language was part of prompt but not in the "notes" header
- **Inclusive planning builds trust - defining the community is everything**
- **water planning is multibiennial, multigenerational - not making it inclusive allows "enderrounders" to undo it - have to have foundational understanding of legal framework and data, capacity for long-term engagement**
- Need broad set of stakeholders who see themselves as part of solution - buy-in & willingness & capacity to invest -- what are commitments to seeing process play out -- durability -- what is finish line? What are expected outcomes?
- reemphasize durability - identify some options in planning process, but identifying how they play out on ground is the tricky part
- **adding in "INFORMED" piece, and what's possible in terms of data and analysis, and what do we know and what we don't know, how do we deal with the unknown - not acting in the absence of information can be an action in and of itself**
- what does adaptive management look like?

- Can be challenging to have metrics and objectives defined up front
- some information foundational to moving forward, some can be added as you go
 - **what is foundational information that agencies should be providing to communities? Lots of data, but not always easily accessible**
- what is definition of "community"? different from land use context - water transcends boundaries, bulk of cost is infrastructure & power to move it and maintain it. Hermiston is different from Yakima Nation is different from irrigators is different from environmentalists.
 - "Community" might be local community using the water, also include people who rely on the resources from outside local community
 - who decides who is in the room - public can decide, invite everyone
- **timing is key to defining community. short? just a few years, maybe project-based, smaller geography and possibly smaller community. long? more basin level.**
- Two different scales for planning - Regional planning a la PBP (state initiated with state requirements) AND ad hoc place-based planning, possibly around a project - these planning efforts can move in tandem - what elements are critical to supporting BOTH?
- Pilots and/or smaller-scale planning efforts - Build engagement for the longer range!
- Defining "community" - What can we do to sustain water for next 50 years in Umatilla County vs what can we do to sustain water indefinitely - bring it to entire community by making it longer range, Columbia water use brings in Division 33, takes it into interstate and potentially international conversation - Columbia River Treaty and recognition of environmental uses
- Mismessaging that can occur when scope (temporal and/or geographical) gets bigger without community getting bigger
- Reliance on state or another sovereign to implement plans
- State role?
 - Data & analysis
 - Implementation support
 - How to bridge the biennial cycle and show sustained commitment (Kitzhaber's 10 year budget effort)
- Example - Deschutes basin water summit, planning meeting of sovereigns - define vision - inclusive, collaborative, and basin-wide
 - Having WRD at table very helpful for accessing data, but limited funding for implementation but more coming through recently
 - ODFW at table too - good partnerships
 - Phased approach - start with upper basin (upper basin study was done, HCP for irrigation, then spotted frog) - incentive of ESA species to gel the group and start working
 - **Decades of work**
- **Local/region - provide monitoring, reporting, accountability in following the plan, "money-makers for the state" in terms of generating state revenue**

- **State** - provide peer reviewed data set to run through and model, and informed decisions on investments, and adaptive management - held by STATE not local, for accountability
- Have the plans inform the POPs!
- **Marry the bottom-up grassroots planning and the top-down state-led planning - track progress and revise**
- Look at other states
 - **Interest in learning from other states** - lessons learned, what worked, mechanism to do certain pieces
 - Example - Yakima Basin Plan - executive and legislative charge to complete plan and memorialize it, regional oversight entity that tracks progress and reports out on implementation
 - Allow regions to define planning oversight entity pursuant to state requirements
 - Governor leadership is key
- DEQ & WRD interested in providing information where possible - **WRD has done a lot of research and thinking on these topics**
 - E.g., scope and scale
 - This conversation helps cue in Lili on work that could be done between meetings
 - Important to have at helpful level of detail - don't want to overwhelm people