

OREGON



WATER RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT

Water Resources Commission

Policy Section Update

September 1, 2022

Danielle Gonzalez, Policy Section Manager



Agenda

- Policy Section Overview
- Resource Management Decisions
- Projects Highlighted for 2021-2023 Biennium
- Projects Awaiting Available Staffing Resources
- Discussion



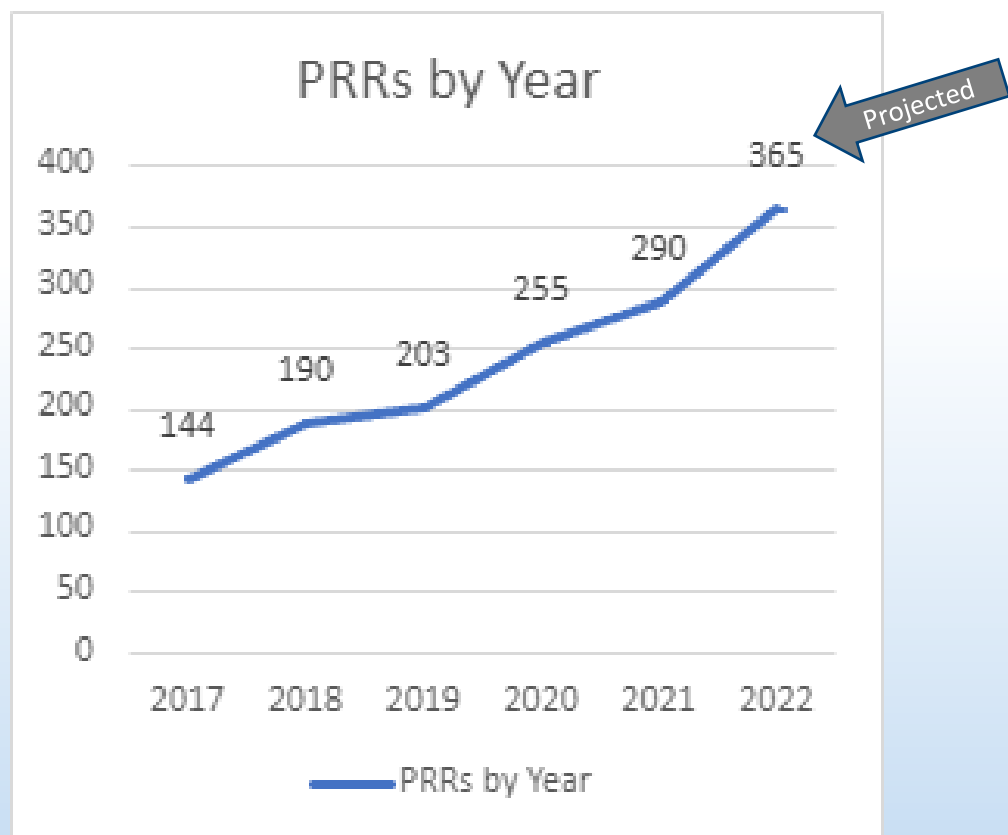
Policy Section Overview

- Administrative
- Public Records Requests
- Media and Communications
- Budget
- Policy and Bill Implementations
- Rulemakings
- Reports to Legislature
- Integrated Water Resources Strategy

- Recruitments
 - ✓ Public Records/ Executive Administrative Assistant- November 2021
 - ✓ Public Information/Resiliency Specialist- January 2022
 - ✓ Policy Section Manager- March 2022
 - ✓ Communications Coordinator- June 2022
 - ✓ Integrated Water Resources Specialist- June 2022
 - ✓ Water Policy Analysts (2 positions)- August and September 2022
- Training and Onboarding
 - ✓ SOS Inquiry- Water Governance and Water Security
 - ✓ SOS Inquiry- State Workforce Challenges

Public Records Requests

- Develop Desk Manual for Handling Records Requests
- PRR All Staff Reference and Training
- Form Public Records Team Given Increased Workloads
 - Projected 153% increase in PRRs since 2017
 - 0.5 FTE dedicated to PRRs
 - Increasing complexity



Completed

- ✓ Internal staff newsletter revamp, template and release
- ✓ Drought Webpage Update (drought.oregon.gov)
- ✓ 55 Tracked Media requests since February 2022

In Progress/Upcoming

- Develop Preparedness, Emergency, and Resiliency Communications Action Plan
- Cannabis (House Bill 4061) Communication materials and video
- HB 2145: Communications materials for Well Abandonment, Repair and Replacement Fund (WARRF)
- Conversion of Agency Listservs to Gov Delivery
- Develop style, writing, web, plain language, and accessibility guidelines
- Harney Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
- Dry Well Response, Information, Website and Launch of Public Form

Completed

- ✓ December 2021 Special Session Funding
- ✓ 2023-2025 Biennium Agency Request Budget development
- ✓ Community Engagement Plan Development and Implementation, Progress Report, Presentations, and Racial Equity Impact Statement (REIS)

In Progress/Upcoming

- Governor's Budget Process
- 2023 Joint Ways and Means Budget Presentation Development & Outreach
- E-Board Filings (June, September, December)

Policy & Bill Implementation

Completed

- ✓ Cannabis Policy Development and Legislation (HB 4061)
- ✓ Participant: Poultry CAFO policy discussions
- ✓ Participant: Interagency Farmworker Housing Task Force

In Progress/Upcoming

- HB 3103 Policy Workgroup: Transfers of Stored Water policy discussions
- House Bill 4061 Implementation: development and training of field, enforcement, and customer service for new cannabis and water hauling provisions
- 2023 Legislation: LC 549, Split Season Leasing policy discussions (Sunset Provisions)
- 2023 Legislation: LC 544, Water Planning policy discussions
- Participant: Salmonid Mitigation Credit Workgroup
- Policy Workgroup: Fee Based Programs discussions (workgroup start June/July)

Completed

- ✓ Division 51: HB 2143 (2021) Repeal Annual Fee
- ✓ Division 54: Hydroelectric Conversion to Instream

In Progress/Upcoming

- Division 10: Appropriation and Use of Ground Water
- Groundwater Allocation Policy Modernization
- Divisions 190, 200, 205, 215, 225, 240, 260: Various Well Construction, Rule Updates
- Division 512: Malheur Lake Basin Program / Harney Groundwater
- HB 4061: Cannabis and Enforcement
- Division 380 Rulemaking: (HB 3103) Stored Water Character of Use
- Division 77 Rulemaking: Pertaining to Instream Transfers and Leases

Integrated Water Resources Strategy

- Convene Interagency teams for updated IWRS Recommended Actions
- IWRS Interagency Progress Report
- Legislative Presentation on Progress Report and IWRS Development
- Communications and Outreach Plan development for IWRS Update
- Implement Communications and Outreach Plan, including stakeholder and public engagement
- Develop Draft and final stakeholder reviews of IWRS
- Commission Approval Target end of 2023



Legislative and State Reporting

- Deschutes Mitigation Credits Annual Report
- Annual reporting of Key Performance Measures
- Annual Rules Report
- Annual Government-to-Government Report
- Annual 540.587 Report to Legislature
- Oregon Sustainability Report and Presentation
- Environmental Justice Annual Report ORS 182.550
- Water Measurement Report to House Water Committee
- SB 1602 Report to Legislature
- Deschutes 540.155 Report to the Legislature
- HB 2145 (2021) Implementation report to Legislature



Director's Office Projects

- Racial Justice Equitable Water Access Funding
- Business Case Assessment for Water
- Tribal Water Task Force
- 2021 New Project Organization, Tracking, and Management
- Drought Vulnerability Assessment

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