



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Water Resources Department

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### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Water Resources Commission

**FROM:** Douglas E. Woodcock, Acting Director

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item A, November 17, 2022  
Water Resources Commission Meeting

### Project Implementation Update

#### I. Introduction

Staff will update the Commission on Department efforts to implement numerous projects associated with the 2021-2023 budget and legislation. *This is an informational report.*

#### II. Background

In 2021, the Oregon Legislature made a major focus on water resources, adding significant new staff capacity across many Water Resources Department programs as well as creating new responsibilities for the agency. The Legislature made additional water resources-related investments during the second Special Session in December 2021.

Over the course of the biennium, the Department has focused substantial energy on recruiting, hiring and onboarding people into many positions and carrying out the added tasks. Staff have made an ongoing effort to keep the Commission, Legislators, stakeholders, and the general public informed about the status of implementing this significant workload.

In September, the Commission was briefed by managers in the Policy Section, Water Rights Section, Water Rights Services Division, Groundwater Section, and the Transfers and Conservation Section on work priorities and projects.

During this agenda item, staff will report on 2021-2023 budget and legislation implementation progress. In addition, the Commission will receive more detailed briefings by managers of the Surface Water Section, Dam Safety Section, and Well Construction Section.

#### Attachments:

1. OWRD Select Projects Tracking List
2. OWRD Completed Projects Tracking List
3. Surface Water Section 2021-23 Biennium Work Priorities and Projects
4. Dam Safety Section 2021-23 Biennium Work Priorities and Projects
5. Well Construction Section 2021-23 Biennium Work Priorities and Projects

# Attachment 1

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Project	Description	Category	Type	Stage	Status	Completed	In Progress	Next Steps	Issues / Risks	Link
2	<b>Basin Water Budgets &amp; GW Recharge for Major Basins in OR</b>	Contract w/USGS to do the work; WRD staff support w/data & analyses; HB 2018 and POP 110	Groundwater Surface water	Data	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Contract executed; work has begun	•Contracted work in progress	•Coordinate on completing work. Assess co-location or other opportunities to coordiante with USGS	USGS staff also occupied with Harney and WW work. Multi-year project, currently scoping into the 25-27 biennium	
3	<b>Develop plan and implement/purchase of data collection equipment</b>	\$3 million for surface water and groundwater data collection equipment	Groundwater Surface water	Data	In Progress	Concerned	•Funds released to agency, PCAs set up. Signed contracts for surface water collection equipment. GW still needs a contract for equipment. •USGS Hydrologic Instrumentation Facility (HIF) contract is active.	•Not started; developing contracts for drilling, equipment list has been provided to DAS along with solication, DOJ has approved. Next Step is pre-proposal conference. USGS HIF contract executed; purchase order is out for three gages	•Continue finalizing contracting issues Develop a plan to be shared with the Commission		
4	<b>Expand Obs Well Network</b>	HB 2018 and associated POPS	Groundwater Surface water	Data	In Progress	Concerned	• Identify drilling locations and discussing access agreements with land owners for several initial obs well sites.	•Work with DAS to develop the ability for WRD to contract directly with drillers •Seeking to design a delegation of authority process.	•Finalize contracting approach. Then iterate for each site: •Finalize site access •Archeological consultation with Tribes and SHPO •Draft technical specs and solicit bids •Schedule and conduct installation of wells, instrument wells and add to state obs network and GWIS.	Long process to finalize contracting approach with DAS. Drillers booked out over a year in some areas - may encounter difficulty installing wells before the end of the biennium.	
5	<b>HB 2145 - Communications</b>	Communicate out law change to drilling community	Well Construction	Implement Law	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Met w OGWA 6/2022 to discuss July 2022 technical well report reviews. •Included article in July 2022 Well Said about July changes. •5/22 - One page mailer about July changes sent to all licensed drillers.	•Next meeting with OGWA scheduled for 10/2022. •Continuing communication with OGWA in regard to bill requirements. •Plan future Well Said articles, mailings, personal contact, and phone calls to drillers.	•Staff are communicating with drillers regarding changes. •10/2022 meeting scheduled w OGWA about July 2022 changes. •Continue communicating about changes to industry.		

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6	<b>HB 2145 - Exempt Use Fund Transition / Start Card Fee Increase</b>	Transition exempt use map and fee to collection by driller by January 1, 2022. Roll out start card fee increase.	Well Construction	Rulemaking	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Changes for 1/1/2022 implemented. Tasks complete except as provided in next steps.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Rule changes have been developed.</li> <li>•Staff addressing issues as they come up and responding to customers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hold RAC meeting to discuss changes to OAR 690-190, 690-225, 690-260.</li> </ul>	Rules will be adopted at a later date due to limited staff capacity.	<a href="#">Webpage Link</a>
7	<b>HB 2145 - Implement All other policy changes scheduled for July 2023/2024</b>	All other provisions of HB 2145; conduct rulemaking; Well report reviews are done (eff. 7/1/22) working in 7/1/23 changes.	Well Construction	Rulemaking / Implement Law	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•WCC 120 reporting has begun. Report to the legislature is drafted.</li> <li>•Discussions ongoing with IS regarding July 1, 2023 requirements</li> <li>•Communication plan for 2023 changes has been implemented.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•WCC meeting weekly with IS on upcoming July changes to develop process and applications needed to successfully implement requirements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Thinking ahead for July 2023/2024 changes.</li> <li>•Discussions with IS continue in regard to July 2023 and July 2023 program changes.</li> </ul>		<a href="#">Webpage Link</a>
8	<b>HB 2145 - IS Project - Update Well Logs and Start Card Systems for 2023/2024</b>	Begin work in January 2022 to update well log system and start cards for new info by 2023; electronic submittal by 2024.	Well Construction	Information Technology	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•WC has provided information to IS on changes necessary to implement bill.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•IS and WCC are meeting weekly to discuss July 2023 system changes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Task list has been finalized and is being tracked in teams.</li> <li>•Tasks are moving forward as we wrap up the July 1, 2022 changes.</li> <li>•Begin communication plan in July 2022.</li> </ul>	Limited IS Resources	<a href="#">Webpage Link</a>
9	<b>HB 2145 - Report to Legislature</b>	Report to the legislature on well log reviews and inspections by January 31, 2023 and 2025.	Well Construction	Report	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Reporting requirements are being incorporated into new technical well log review information system.</li> <li>•Reports are being developed in coordination with system.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Meeting weekly with IS to develop needed reports.</li> <li>•Met w/TSD Admin to go over proposed data and report development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Draft report complete</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Draft report is complete</li> <li>•First report due January 31, 2023</li> </ul>	
10	<b>HB 2145 - Technical Well Log Reviews</b>	Train staff and develop procedures for 100% well log reviews by July 1, 2022 120 day reviews are ongoing	Well Construction	Implement Law	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•NRS2 Well Program Specialist transitioned to new role.</li> <li>•NW Region inspector hired.</li> <li>•SC Region well inspector hired.</li> <li>•Presented to OGWA regarding July 1, 2022 changes.</li> <li>•Met with OGWA 6/2022 to discuss technical well report reviews and communication regarding deficiencies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Program went live on July 1.</li> <li>•Working through bugs in IS application.</li> <li>•Finalizing reports to be sent out for 120 day notification requirement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Send out 120 day reports to drillers as required by bill.</li> <li>•Continue to monitor reviews for compliance with timelines.</li> </ul>		<a href="#">Webpage Link</a>

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11	<b>Statewide ET Project</b>	Develop field-scale estimates of consumptive use irrigated agricultural lands, along with estimates of evaporation from reservoirs, for the period 1984-2020 using remotely sensed ET data through OpenET.	Groundwater Surface water	Data	In Progress	Concerned	-3 OWRD ET and water use hydrologist positions filled -Installed 3 new AgriMet stations in NE Oregon -DRI contract signed \$290k for ET data analysis portion -DOJ review of 1985-2015 ET data development RFP complete	•RFP for 1985-2015 ET data development awaiting DAS action •DRI contract - having coordination meetings every 3 weeks •Developing stakeholder meeting agenda and handout materials •Meeting with Oregon Climate Office and other state and federal agencies to develop Agrimet network expansion prospectus	•Funding sources mapped to projects and IDd as base budget or one time. •Work with fiscal on RFP process for 1985-2015 ET data scope of work •Spending plan for SB5561 \$\$s developed; stakeholder outreach scheduled 8/16/22.	After exploring multiple options for contracting with OpenET, determined we need to run an RFP process - slowing 1985-2015 ET data component of work down further. DOJ is reviewing RFP. Decided not to spend SB5561 \$\$s. Communicated to stakeholders and legislature	
12	<b>Walla Walla Basin Study</b>	Basin study w/USGS	Groundwater Surface water	Data	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Scope and contract in place with USGS and WA Ecology; data collection in progress (study completion date:	•Data collection and analysis	•Hire basin outreach staff, free up GW staff (2 FTE) to focus on data analysis, add new NRS-3 to the study.	•Need drilling contract for observation wells; 2 projects have been spec'd; access agreements in place, waiting to go to bid. Need DAS approval over \$150k	<a href="#">Webpage Link</a>
13	<b>Develop and Implement Plan for Spending the \$5 million for dam safety flood, analysis, and assessments</b>	\$5 million - (\$1 million general funds and \$4 million ARPA funds) to contract for professional engineering services to perform flood methodology, inundation assessments, and engineering analyses for dams.	Dam Safety	Contract	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•21 contracts awarded for \$949k out of \$1M GF.	•2 RFPs drafted for remaining \$1M GF. 4 RFPs drafted and 8 RFPs under development for \$3.07M out of \$4M ARPA funds	• Get the last 2 contracts for the \$1M GF out to bid • Finalize 12 contracts for \$3.07M in ARPA funds • Develop contracts for the remaining ARPA funds	working with DAS on an efficient process to get all our contracts through the RFP process as quickly as possible. DOJ review complete; comments addressed and submitted to DAS.	
14	<b>2022 Cannabis and Enforcement Legislation</b>	Implementing HB 4061 relating to cannabis water use and water enforcement	Field	Rulemaking / Implement Law	In Progress	Concerned	•Phase I. Communication materials finalized and distributed; letters and emails sent to spread word •Conducted field staff training •Communications staff starts late June	•Continue Phase 1: Raise awareness of bill •Policy staff started 8/15	•Guidance and rulemaking needed •Targeted "how to" videos in production •Implementing in phases (awareness, documentation, civil penalties, criminal penalties).	Phase I required pulling resources from existing policy staff time. Likely will need to address other policy issues before Phase II.	
15	<b>2023 Legislation Development - Split Season Leasing</b>	Split season leasing to Sunset January 2, 2024. Propose legislation.	Water Rights	Legislation	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Draft language received from LC (no revisions needed)	• Finalize fiscal and handouts by October • Develop testimony	• Meet with legislators		

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16	<b>Develop Communications Program</b>	Develop communications program and increase preparedness for emergencies	Communications	Resiliency	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Drafted communications gaps and needs survey for staff</li> <li>•Finished PAS 1 recruitment</li> <li>•Procuring GovDelivery for listservs</li> <li>•Issued survey to staff</li> <li>•Onboarded new position</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Assessing communications activities and needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Develop communications plan and prioritize communications projects</li> </ul>	Drought, cannabis, legislation communications, other issues, and increased media inquiries divert staff time. Budget is a concern for implementing recommendations	
17	<b>Division 380 HB 3103 Character of Use Changes</b>	Implement bill to allow change of Character of Use for which water is stored under a certificated storage right.	Water Rights	Rulemaking / Implement Law	On Hold	On Hold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Processing character of use changes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Policy staff starts Aug/Sept - onboard and train</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address rule updates at a later date</li> </ul>	Low staff capacity for rulemaking. Rulemaking on hold due to other workloads; do not have capacity to work on all projects at once. Other rulemakings likely higher priority.	
18	<b>Division 77 Rulemaking</b>	Rulemaking pertaining to instream transfers and leases	Water Rights	Rulemaking	On Hold	On Hold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Discussed whether to proceed with rulemaking with Water Resources Commission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Currently on hold due to other rulemaking priorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Per direction of the Commission, prep information to schedule another RAC meeting</li> </ul>	On hold due to other workloads; do not have capacity to work on all projects at once.	<a href="#">Rule Webpage</a>
19	<b>Division 215 Rulemaking</b>	Correct issue with rule	Well Construction	Rulemaking	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Notified drilling community of need for rulemaking</li> <li>•Language for rule drafted consistent with language that was previously removed by mistake in 2016</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Incorporate with other Well Construction rulemakings for HB 2145</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Drafting Well Construction rulemaking(s) plan and timeline</li> </ul>	Rules are being drafted; initial schedule has been developed	<a href="#">Rule Webpage</a>
20	<b>Groundwater Allocation Policy</b>	Modernized groundwater allocation policy that is more sustainable and protective of senior water right holders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•First task is GW Availability</li> </ul>	Groundwater Surface water	Rulemaking	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Contract for public outreach meeting sent to contractor.</li> <li>•Draft rulemaking scheduled for Commission meeting in 2023.</li> <li>•Weekly workgroup meetings.</li> <li>•PFO for interim approach under review.</li> <li>• Public Outreach meetings complete.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Internal meetings to prepare for rulemaking process</li> <li>•September 22 to October 6 Public meetings tentatively scheduled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Continue rule drafting</li> <li>•Develop process chart and "ideal" review form</li> </ul>	Complicated rulemaking; need for guidance and re-review for interim approach	



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21	<b>Willamette Basin Complex Issues and Reallocation</b>	Develop basin situation assessment & workplan and implement the Willamette Reservoir Reallocation	Basin Support	Basin Support	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Position filled on 3/1/2022</li> <li>Attending Council of Water Leaders and Yamhill Co. Water Task Force quarterly meetings.</li> <li>Complete with internal meetings for situational assessment</li> <li>Cooperating Agency review of draft Willamette Programmatic EIS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducting external stakeholder interviews for situational assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss draft reallocation workplan with Army Corps, ACT/Sponsor, and stakeholders</li> <li>Create summary of feedback from situational assessment</li> <li>Develop initial basin priorities for discussion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Willamette EIS process currently underway with potential implications for the management of stored water</li> </ul>	
22	<b>Division 340 Rulemaking</b>	Reclaimed water registrations	Water Rights	Rulemaking	On Hold	On Hold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On Hold</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revise draft rules / Form new RAC</li> </ul>	Staffing capacity. Other rulemakings are a higher priority. May take some time to get back to this one.	<a href="#">Rule Webpage</a>
23	<b>Protest Backlog Reduction</b>	\$2.2 million / limited-duration positions to facilitate the referral and completion of administrative hearings or other procedures to alleviate the backlog.	Water Rights	Backlog Reduction	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>39 protested applications referred to Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH); 12 cases withdrawn from OAH for updates or protest resolved</li> <li>Trained Hearing Officers in WRD's process in December</li> <li>DOJ hired new attorney in February to support backlog reduction project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently 27 protested applications at the OAH</li> <li>Remaining cases at OAH are transfers (3), permit extensions (2), surface water (1), groundwater (3), and instream (18) applications</li> <li>3 cases led by staff; 24 led by DOJ with staff support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DOJ onboarding new attorney</li> <li>OAH to schedule conferences for remaining referred cases</li> <li>OWRD continues to work on contested cases and evaluate potential settlement opportunities</li> </ul>	Given the length of the hearing process, significant changes to the number of remaining cases (versus settled or otherwise resolved cases) are anticipated over months rather than weeks.	
24	<b>Water Right Transactions Backlog Reduction</b>	Hire staff to reduce WRSD backlogs; Portion of \$3 million	Water Rights	Backlog Reduction	In Progress	Behind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Job postings completed and recruitments announced.</li> <li>Interviews completed. Support person hired.</li> <li>Two LD NRS 2 Transfer Caseworkers hired in TACS.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Certificate support position hired and trained.</li> <li>Two LD NRS 2 Transfer Caseworkers (TACS) in process of being trained.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hire and train new staff.</li> <li>Complete training of two LD NRS 2 Transfer Caseworkers in TACS.</li> </ul>	WRD notified in March that ARPA funds could be used for this purpose.	
25	<b>Harney Conservation Reserve Program</b>	State and federal funds to enroll GW users in voluntary program to cancel GW irrigation rights & replace irrigated ground w/native grasses	Basin Support	Cost Share	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CREP position begins in Bend August 15, 2022</li> <li>CREP draft contract agreement has been reviewed by USDA and DOJ legal counsel; revisions and reviews in progress</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OWRD review in progress</li> <li>Preparing Public Scoping Meeting for Programmatic Environmental Assessment, likely late August in Burns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize contract agreement; continue work on prog. environmental assessment</li> </ul>	Federal process has a number of steps which is resulting in delays; WRD seeking funding for next biennium.	

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26	<b>SB 5561 Cannabis Package (special session)</b>	Funds 29 FTE for improving regulation of cannabis and compliance	Administration	Modern Workforce	Recruiting	Behind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•12 of 14 AWMs have been hired. Enforcement Section (ES) manager is hired and working. Waiting on DAS for ES staff reclassification from NRS-CS before ES can recruit 5 vacant positions. ONE ES AS2 hired and working, recruiting for second FSD AS2 continues. Comms/Policy hired.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Recruiting for one AWM in SCR &amp; one in SWR continues; ES waiting on DAS for PDs and recruitment for 5 compliance specialists.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•12 AWMs have been effective for compliance on registered and unregistered cannabis sites.</li> <li>•Enforcement coordinate with WM/AWMs on efficiency of Final Orders.</li> <li>•AWMs accompany LE daily</li> </ul>	ES Manager requires support staff to continue w/ efficiencies and modernizations of enforcement process.	
27	<b>Water Measurement Cost Share Program and Spending Plan</b>	Develop spending plan; approach for administering; update materials \$1M ARPA funds plus ~\$100k GF	Field	Grant Program	On Hold	On Hold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Decided to move management of fund from ASD to PCI</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Determine ARPA requirements for funding</li> <li>•Develop charter</li> </ul>	Likely will not begin work on revamping program until 2023	
28	<b>HB 2145 - Set up Water Well Abandonment, Repair and Replacement Fund (HB 2145)</b>	Provides \$5.4 million to provide assistance to abandon wells and to repair or replace water wells used for household purposes.	Well Construction	Grant Program	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WARRF launched in June 2022</li> <li>• LD NRS 4 grant position filled July 1, 2022 - full-time August 1, 2022.</li> <li>2 interns hired in Klamath Falls office to assist with program</li> <li>Application materials translated into Spanish</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Receiving and reviewing grant apps; 127 applications submitted and 429 phone/email inquiries received by 10/13/22. \$1.5 million allocated and \$787,000 awarded so far.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Noting changes that can be made for phase 2 to encompass more applicants who may not have met initial requirements.</li> </ul>	Many apps are incomplete; takes time on phone to resolve. Concerns about availability of well drillers.	<a href="#">WARRF Link</a>
29	<b>Klamath SWMPA or CGWA</b>	Potential to declare a Serious Water Management Problem Area (SWMPA) or Critical Groundwater Area in Klamath (CGWA)	Groundwater Surface water	Rulemaking	Not Started	On Hold		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Not started due to other workload priorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Assess resources and other priorities to determine if we have sufficient resources to proceed on Klamath SWMPA or CGWA work</li> </ul>	Limited staff capacity: current focus is on completing Div 10 rulemaking; conduct Harney SWMPA- CGWA rulemaking after Div 10.	<a href="#">Rule Webpage</a>

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30	<b>Set up Harney Domestic Well Remediation Program</b>	\$500,000 for the Domestic Well Remediation Fund for replacing, repairing, or deepening domestic water wells affected by declining ground water level/ HB 3092	Well Construction	Grant Program	On Hold	On Hold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Developed draft charter</li> <li>•Received charter approval on 12/2</li> <li>•Updated charter on 1/7/22 to reflect need to pause project implementation due to priority focus on Water Well Abandonment Repair and Replacement Fund</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•On hold due to work on statewide well fund. WRD assessing how to get this work started shortly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Reinitiate project</li> <li>•Recruiting for grant analyst</li> </ul>	Capacity is limited and focused on standing up statewide Well Abandonment, Repair, and Replacement Fund to address emergency issues associated with drought and wildfire. Recent resignation of senior grant staff will delay project further.	
31	<b>Harney Groundwater Rulemaking Division 512</b>	Review existing rules; Develop CGWA/SWMPA rules; convene RAC	Groundwater Surface water	Rulemaking	Scoping	On Hold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•East Region public engagement coordinator hired; policy staff hired and start Aug/Sept.</li> <li>•Developed communications on GW Study</li> <li>•Currently developing workplan for basin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Scoping the rulemaking process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Planning to convene first RAC in April 2023</li> </ul>	Division 10 Rulemaking needs to be first as the pre-cursor. Limited staff capacity for carrying forward rulemakings. Progress will be slowed.	<a href="#">Rule Webpage</a>
32	<b>SB 5561 Cannabis Package (special session) IT Project</b>	Field and Enforcement Database Upgrade	Field	Information Technology	Scoping	Concerned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Preliminary scoping meeting held in June; evaluating options for contractor selection to identify best approach and software solutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Contract request out to COVENDIS, waiting on results. Internal team prepped to be ready to meet w/ Contractor for scoping out a) current tools and b) improvements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Fill vacant developer positions.</li> <li>•Produce contract dollar spend estimates and statement of work.</li> </ul>	Recruitment is a significant risk in a tight labor market.	
33	<b>Public Complaint Form</b>	A central public complaint web form used to reduce lengthy calls to field offices.	Field	Information Technology	On Hold	Concerned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•A prototype was created after the Jackson County Complaint Form. Input provided from regional managers. System would allow a citizen to click a location on a map where a violation might be and that would generate an email to the appropriate watermaster.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Feedback being incorporated into a 1.0 release.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Further enhancements for a 2.0 release at later date.</li> </ul>	Revisit and see if it can't be rolled out November.	



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34	<b>Data Center Migration</b>	Continued migration of WRD computer infrastructure to the DAS Data Center.	Administration	Information Technology	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•In Flight, 90% complete	•Working on remaining server infrastructure needing to be migrated to state data center.	•ArcGIS, Trialworks and remaining file server migration. Anticipated to be complete by July 2023	Other deliverables and technical obstacles has slowed this effort down. This work must be balanced on limited technical staffing resources to allow for parallel work on projects in this spreadsheet and labor required for pandemic response.	
35	<b>Develop Training and Safety Program</b>	Complete initial assessment of WRD's safety policies and practices.	Administration	Modern Workforce	On Hold	On Hold	•Hired HR position with Safety responsibilities.	•Attendance at Safety Committee meetings. Training and onboarding.		Current focus of HR is on recruitments.	
36	<b>Field Office Network Upgrades</b>	Continued work to bring all field offices onto high speed internet and state networks.	Administration	Information Technology	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Medford, Bend, Klamath Falls, Roseburg and Pendleton complete.	•Eugene in preplanning. Baker City moved as of Oct 1. Need internet finalized	•Procure Office Internet for Eugene Office. •Baker City moved but internet in development.	Work continues very slowly due to resource constraints. Competing work is taking priority.	
37	<b>Management Training</b>	Training provided at AMG meetings to enhance management skills.	Administration	Modern Workforce	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•45 minute sessions have begun. •Will continue with recruitment and onboarding theme until completed.	•Topics have been focused on recruitment processes in Workday.	•Continued focus on recruitment and Workday processes in preparation for Workday Payroll and Time Tracking.	Focus is on recruitment processes and highest priority "must do's".	
38	<b>Mobile Device Management Implementation</b>	Procurement and rollout of mobile device management solution to securely manage phones and tablets.	Administration	Information Technology	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Prototype of new system rolled out to early adopters. Agency rollout to happen through device lifecycle replacement over the next 18 months.	•Lifecycle replacement continues and we continue MDM rollout through this process with low impact to staff.	•Continue to replace phones, enrolling new devices in the MDM solution.	80% complete	
39	<b>Records Management</b>	Implement records management and retention updates and best practices	Administration	Records	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Onboarded Records Officer. •Initial assessment of paper records and file cabinets at the Salem Office. •Creation of destruction log.	•Inventory of paper records. Update of Special Retention Schedule. Water Right files workgroup created. Formal Trainings scheduled.	•Complete Records inventory with boxes tracked on ORMS through SpaceManagement module. Special Schedule finalization.	Large project that impacts many sections.	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Project	Description	Category	Type	Stage	Status	Completed	In Progress	Next Steps	Issues / Risks	Link
40	<b>Recruitments</b>	38 new positions from 2021 Legislative Session plus vacancies	Administration	Modern Workforce	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•As of August, twenty six of the thirty eight new positions have been filled, 7 recruitments are in process, one is being repurposed and 1 is being held open to fund another position.	•Seven recruitments are in process.	•Continue recruitments for the 7 positions.	Job market. Some positions experiencing fewer applicants than in previous recruitments. Managers have several positions to fill and train in short period of time.	
41	<b>System LifeCycle Replacement</b>	Continued replacement of staff computer equipment based on age and special need.	Administration	Information Technology	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Ongoing project.		•Continue to replace equipment based on criteria established by the IS Manager.		
42	<b>Ticketing System Replacement</b>	Agency ticketing system is being aged out and must be replaced.	Administration	Information Technology	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Procurement	•70% complete	•Coordinate installation with Vendor	Will compete for Network/Helpdesk resources. Risk of helpdesk interruptions during cutover.	
43	<b>Work From Anywhere Modernization</b>	Continued work in support of adapting to "Work from anywhere".	Administration	Information Technology	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Significant rollout of laptops. Updating conference rooms to better support hybrid meetings. Updating commission meeting equipment to better support remote and hybrid meetings.	•80%	•Continued migration to Laptops and analysis of remote desktop solutions to replace the many desktop computers being left running for high bandwidth systems like ArcGIS. Continued work	Onboarding of new IS staff and resource constraints continue to pose challenges.	
44	<b>Work Reimagined</b>	Determination of Department processes associated with hybrid work (i.e., position eligibility), including alignment with DAS policies and guidance.	Administration	Modern Workforce	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Worktypes determined across Department •Individual needs surveys complete •Input from in-office staff summarized	•Section needs survey distributed •Equipment sub-group established	•Compile information and develop draft decisions around rearrangement and present to ACT	Rearranging the building space is expensive. Determine leadership goals/interests for space rearrangement.	
45	<b>Big Creek Dams grant</b>	Provides \$14 million in the Water Supply Fund for a grant	Dam Safety	Direct Grant	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Grant Agreement became effective 10/10/2022	•Manage grant	•Manage grant	Lottery Bond Sale May 2022 / 2023	
46	<b>Wallowa Lake Dam Grant</b>	Provides \$14 million in Water Supply Fund	Dam Safety	Direct Grant	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Grant Agreement became effective 8/31/2022	•Manage grant	•Manage grant	Lottery Bond Sale May 2022	
47	<b>Deschutes Basin Board of Control piping Project Grant</b>	\$10 million in the Water Supply Development Account SB 5006 / SB 5534	Water Projects	Direct Grant	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	•Grant Agreement became effective 2/7/2022	•Manage grant	•Manage grant	Lottery Bond Sale May 2022	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Project	Description	Category	Type	Stage	Status	Completed	In Progress	Next Steps	Issues / Risks	Link
48	<b>Drought Vulnerability Assessment (special session)</b>	\$300,000 General Fund to contract for a statewide drought vulnerability assessment for both instream and out-of-stream needs	Other Projects	Report	In Progress	Concerned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Met with National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC) at University of Lincoln, Nebraska and Oregon Climate Research Impacts Consortium (OCCRI) and Oregon State University.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drafting scope of work with OCCRI and NDMC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enter into intergovernmental agreement</li> </ul>	Progress has been slow due to other workloads; do not have capacity to work on all projects at once. Target completion date December 2023.	
49	<b>Fish passage for dam upgrade projects grants</b>	Provides \$500,000 in ARPA Funds to assist local governments with meeting fish passage requirements for dam upgrade projects	Water Projects	Direct Grant	Scoping	Behind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Made initial contact with ODFW</li> <li>Proposed two options for approach to DAS</li> <li>Received confirmation from DAS on approach</li> <li>identified potential projects</li> <li>Met with ODFW in Sept</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Setting up processes to comply with federal funding requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verify approach for selected projects and identify dams to receive funds</li> </ul>	WRD received notice in Feb/March that ARPA funds could be used for this purpose.	
50	<b>Nesika Beach Grant</b>	\$250,000 General Fund SB 5006	Water Projects	Direct Grant	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grant Agreement became effective 9/12/2022.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage grant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage grant</li> </ul>	General fund dollars requires that work be complete by June 30, 2023.	
51	<b>Ordinance regional water infrastructure project.</b>	\$6 million in ARPA Funds for a grant to Umatilla County for the Ordinance Project.	Water Projects	Direct Grant	Scoping	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Met with recipient to understand project and share what was known about ARPA funding requirements</li> <li>Set up processes to comply with federal funding requirements</li> <li>Met with recipient about ARPA funding direction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waiting for additional details from recipient on project in order to develop grant agreement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Execute grant agreement</li> <li>Manage grant</li> </ul>	Did not get confirmation on ARPA funds until Spring 2022	
52	<b>Racial Justice - Equitable Water Access</b>	Provides \$1 million for equitable water access and to explore water needs of Black, Indigenous, Tribal, rural and communities of color.	Other Projects	Racial Justice	Recruiting	Behind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Met with Oregon's Kitchen Table in June about potential role in project, via IGA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with OWRD DEI Team to develop potential RFP to contract for Organizational Assessment and training</li> <li>Reassessing approach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to develop a spending plan and proposal work with interested parties on final plan.</li> </ul>	Progress has been slow due to other workloads; do not have capacity to work on all projects at once.	
53	<b>HB 3293 - Water Project Community Engagement</b>	Make support available to local organizations and local governments for purpose of developing local community engagement plans for water	Water Projects	Rulemaking / Grant Program	On Hold	On Hold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water Core Team identified agency representatives for work</li> <li>Hired grant analyst on 12/22; Grant Coord resigned 6/2023; Replaced Coord w/ internal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reassessing plan due to staff resignation</li> <li>Holding interviews for grant analyst</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop plan for coordinated rulemaking with affected agencies</li> <li>Draft charter</li> </ul>	On hold due to other workloads; do not have capacity to work on all projects at once. Likely further delays due to staff	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Project	Description	Category	Type	Stage	Status	Completed	In Progress	Next Steps	Issues / Risks	Link
54	<b>2023 Legislation Development - Place Based Planning</b>	Propose legislation for funding planning. Place-based planning funding authority sunsets 2023.	Planning	Legislation	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submitted revised LC proposal based on input</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet with legislators and interested stakeholders</li> <li>Revising LC proposal based on input</li> <li>Awaiting recommendations from State-Supported Regional Planning Workgroup</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue discussions with stakeholders to refine LC language after regional water planning and management workgroup</li> </ul>	Authority sunsets; coordination with the work of the regional water planning and management workgroup.	
55	<b>Business case assessment</b>	\$350,000 General Fund was approved on a one-time basis to contract for a business case assessment to examine the economic value of water and the impact of water investment.	Other Projects	Report	In Progress	Behind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporating feedback from Stakeholders</li> <li>Sent RFP information to procurement staff</li> <li>Procurement staff and DAS to work to finalize Request for Proposals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post Request for Proposals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate submitted proposals, draft and negotiate contract</li> <li>Begin Work</li> </ul>	General Fund - must be expended by 6/30/2023. Staffing capacity limited. DAS Procurement backlogged.	
56	<b>HB 3103 - Transfers of Stored Water Workgroup</b>	Workgroup on changes to right to store water (Note: character of used already addressed in prior legislation)	Water Rights	Workgroup	Scoping	Behind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial efforts to identify facilitator were unsuccessful; reassessing approach</li> <li>Developed materials in preparation for work</li> <li>Developed scope of work and solicitation for facilitator to do an assessment and recommend approach for workgroup</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sending scope of work out to facilitators to request proposals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit scope of work to potential facilitators</li> </ul>	General fund dollars expended by June 30, 2023. Progress due to other workloads (2021 2nd Special Session and 2022 HB 4061), 2023 Budget and legislative deadlines, and lack of staff capacity. Current litigation on matter.	
57	<b>IWRS Update</b>	Update of the Integrated Water Resources Strategy -	Other Projects	Report	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Met with Oregon's Kitchen Table to discussion engagement facilitation</li> <li>Completed work team development (internal and external to WRD)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of the Progress Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop outreach and engagement plan</li> <li>Target completion of the Progress Report Nov 2022, present to Legislature Dec 2022</li> </ul>	Meeting expectations based on update to be completed in the last half of 2023 or first half of 2024; timeframes to be determined.	
58	<b>Workgroup on Fee Based Programs</b>	Stakeholder engagement to develop more sustainable, long-term funding mechanisms to support fee programs ARPA	Other Projects	Workgroup	Scoping	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial scoping started; likely delay work until after 2023 session / and LC/budget deadlines</li> <li>Meet with potential facilitators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing draft workplan and scope of work</li> <li>Develop informational materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct initial individual discussions with interested parties end of 2022</li> <li>Identify participants and develop schedule April/May 23</li> </ul>	WRD received notice in March that ARPA funds could be used. Progress has been slow due to other workloads (2021 2nd Special Session and 2022 HB 4061), 2023 Budget and legislative deadlines, and lack of staff capacity.	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Project	Description	Category	Type	Stage	Status	Completed	In Progress	Next Steps	Issues / Risks	Link
59	<b>Deschutes and Complex Basins</b>	Funds a communications and policy development work on complex basin water issues, including the Deschutes Basin	Basin Support	Basin Support	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basin Coordinator position filled 6/10/22</li> <li>• Basin situational assessment scoped</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basin situational assessment internal and external meetings</li> <li>• Reviewing and refining scope for use of \$125K of funds from POP 111</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritization of outcomes from basin situational assessment internal and external meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likely to be many desired projects for position; will not be able to do all of it</li> </ul>	
60	<b>Place Based Planning Funding</b>	\$1 million to support place-based planning efforts - spending plan - ARPA	Planning	Grant Program	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asked planning groups for information about their funding needs</li> <li>• Received and reviewed fund requests</li> <li>• Allocated funds amongst planning groups</li> <li>• Received additional details from planning groups about projects to enter into grant agreements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awaiting federal information forms from planning groups to comply with federal guidelines</li> <li>• Drafting grant agreements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage grants</li> </ul>		
61	<b>Division 10 Rulemaking</b>	CGWA Process	Groundwater Surface water	Rulemaking	In Progress	Concerned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Held public information meeting and first RAC meeting;</li> <li>• Scoping of public participation opportunities</li> <li>• Draft of rules developed</li> <li>• Invitations to Rules Advisory Committee</li> <li>• Recruit/Onboard Policy staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reevaluating rulemaking scope, timelines, and RAC membership/process based on feedback</li> <li>• Finalize public participation approach and develop materials for meetings; finalize scope, RAC participation, and timelines</li> <li>• Finalize RAC meeting dates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold RAC meetings, and forums for interested parties to comment</li> </ul>	Priority project thst will be of interest in select basins	<a href="#">Rule Webpage</a>
62	<b>Walla Walla Long-Term Planning</b>	Work with the State of Washington, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and local interests on long-term management in Walla Walla Basin	Basin Support	Basin Support	In Progress	Concerned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meetings with CTUIR and Ecology.</li> <li>• 2050 Strategic plan complete</li> <li>• New advisory committee established</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement Phase II of the Strategic Plan</li> <li>• Select bi-state flow study preferred alternative(s)</li> <li>• Work on bi-state management issues with Ecology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete communications plan for this effort</li> <li>• Plan public meeting for the fall of 2022</li> </ul>	Multi-year project, currently scoping into the 25-27 biennium. There are significant legal and policy issues that will need to be addressed relating to bi-state water management and regulation.	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Project	Description	Category	Type	Stage	Status	Completed	In Progress	Next Steps	Issues / Risks	Link
63	<b>Columbia River - Umatilla Solutions task force grant and Participate in CRUST</b>	\$500,000 in General Fund - Grant to Umatilla county to implement agreements of the Columbia River - Umatilla Solutions task force	Water Projects	Direct Grant	In Progress	Behind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Met with recipient</li> <li>•Sent form to gather information needed for grant agreement in April</li> <li>•Developed 2023 POP for carryover funding</li> <li>•Grantee provided project details for grant agreement 10/7</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Reviewing information submitted by County 10/7 and incorporating into an inter-governmental agreement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Compile information and develop draft decisions around rearrangement and present to ACT Manage agreement</li> </ul>		
64	<b>Regional Water Planning Workgroup</b>	Engage Oregon Consensus to convene a workgroup to consider and develop a framework for state-supported regional water planning and management	Planning	Workgroup	In Progress	Meeting Expectations		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Meeting monthly in accordance with work group operating protocols</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Continue meeting</li> <li>•Report in December</li> </ul>		<a href="#">Workgroup Webpage</a>
65	<b>Tribes-State Agencies Task Force</b>	\$500,000 for indigenous energy resiliency to addressing Indigenous treaty water rights, water scarcity, hydropower, and ecosystem services.	Other Projects	Racial Justice	In Progress	Meeting Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•See also Racial Justice Equitable Water Access</li> <li>•Organizational meetings to discuss the formation of the workgroup</li> <li>•Hired facilitator - First meeting June 21</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Workgroup meetings scheduled; meetings are underway; Task Force Report has been drafted for review; working on funding future work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hold workgroup meetings; hoping to have a report out by end of year</li> </ul>	Initial organization of task force took more time than expected due to challenges of coordinating with many entities.	



Project	Description	Category	Type	Status	Link
<b>Intranet Migration</b>	Migration of Intranet to new server infrastructure in the M365 cloud.	Administration	Information Technology	Complete	
<b>M365 Email Migration</b>	Mandated change of email address happening November 17th.	Administration	Information Technology	Complete	
<b>Reopening to Public</b>	Develop and Implement Plan for reopening agency for public access on May 1, 2022	Administration	Modern Workforce	Complete	
<b>HB 2244 - Implement Stays Bill</b>	Implement bill	Field	Implement Law	Complete	
<b>SB 391</b>	Authorizes county to allow owner of lot or parcel within rural residential zone to construct one accessory dwelling unit on lot or parcel, subject to certain restrictions.	Field	Implement Law	Complete	
<b>HB 2298- Environmental Restoration Weirs</b>	HB 2298 – Directs ODFW to adopt rules and administer a program regarding environmental restoration weirs in closed basins east of the cascades on streams of a specified size.	Field	Implement Law	Complete	
<b>Water Use Measurement and Reporting - Report to the Legislature</b>	Due to House Water Committee January 2022	Groundwater Surface water	Report	Complete	<a href="#">Link to Report</a>
<b>Hydroelectric Fee Increase and Division 51 Rulemaking</b>	Implement fee increase	Hydroelectric	Implement Law	Complete	<a href="#">Rule Webpage</a>
<b>SB 1602 Report to the Legislature</b>	Due to legislature February 2022	Other Projects	Report	Complete	<a href="#">Link to Report</a>

Project	Description	Category	Type	Status	Link
<b>Deschutes 5 year report to the legislature</b>	Due to legislature by 1/1/2022	Water Rights	Report	Complete	<a href="#">Link to Report</a>
<b>Water right fee increase</b>	Implement HB 2142 fee increase 7/1/2021	Water Rights	Implement Law	Complete	
<b>HB 2145 - Technical Well Log Reviews - IS Project</b>	Ensure a system is in place for conducting Technical Well Log Reviews July 2022.	Well Construction	Implement Law	Complete	<a href="#">Webpage Link</a>
<b>Division 54 Rulemaking</b>	Hydro conversions to ISWR	Hydroelectric	Rulemaking	Complete	<a href="#">Rule Webpage</a>
<b>M365 Implementation</b>	Agency Implementation, Training and Adoption of M365 Services (Microsoft Cloud).	Administration	Information Technology	Complete	



# Surface Water Hydrology Section

## 2021-23 Biennium Work Priorities and Projects

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The Surface Water Hydrology Section within the Technical Services Division of the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) provides surface water and water use data, information, and analysis for the Department and the public. Our work supports the responsible management of water supplies in alignment with OWRD's Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRs) and 2019-24 Strategic Plan. Our team of scientists use best available science and collaborate with other technical experts to provide effective technical support.

### Current Operations

#### Hydrographics – Review and publish streamgage and other surface water data (KPM 4)

- Analyze stream/diversion gage data to produce flow records at over 250 gages across Oregon
- Perform QA/QC for over 450 measurements a month
- Collaborate with Field to install new surface water measurement devices
- Establish and maintain contracts for equipment and gage operation across OWRD
- Maintain best practices and support training for all staff taking surface water measurements
- Collaborate with the USGS on improvements to Oregon's gage network

#### Surface Water Availability – Characterize surface water supplies available for allocation

- Maintain the Water Availability Reporting System (WARS) to accurately evaluate new applications
- Address identified errors in WARS and provide internal and external customer service
- Input credits/debits to Deschutes mitigation model to estimate effects on streamflow

#### Hydrologic Studies – Design and implement surface water studies and support planning

- Design and implement surface water data collection and analysis for the Walla Walla Basin Study and Recharge Study in collaboration with USGS over next decade
- Design monitoring and analysis for seasonal (or shorter term) water-management challenges
- Analyze, review, and apply hydrologic data in support of externally led water planning

#### Evapotranspiration (ET)/Water Use – Develop reliable and accessible water datasets (KPM 13)

- Support Water Use Reporting and track, link, and maintain the Water Use Reporting database
- Review, prioritize and implement improvements per the 2022 Water Use Report to the Legislature
- Perform analysis of water use in support of Walla Walla basin study
- Coordinate with OSU Extension, Agrimet, and other Federal, state, and technical partners on various projects, including installation of ground-based weather and ET data collection

#### Drought Condition Reporting and Drought Declaration Coordination

- Coordinate Water Supply Availability Committee and Drought Readiness Council
- Publish bi-weekly Water Supply Conditions Report

## 2021-2023 Surface Water Hydrology Projects and Timelines

### Administration

Jul 2021	Surface Water Manager recruitment – hired
Nov 2021 – Dec 2021	Senior Hydrographer (NRS 4) recruitment - hired
Aug 2021 – Dec 2021	Senior Hydrologist (Field) (NRS 4) move from FS to SWH - complete
Nov 2021 – Dec 2021	Hydrographer (NRS 3) recruitment – hired
Jan 2022 – Mar 2022	Hydrographer (NRS 3) recruitment - hired
Jan 2022– Apr 2022	Hydrologist (CREP) (NRS 3) recruitment – hired
Feb 2022 – Apr 2022	Senior Hydrologist (ET/Water Use) (NRS 4) recruitment – hired
May 2022 – Jul 2022	Hydrologist (ET/Water Use) (NRS 3) recruitment – hired
May 2022 – Jun 2022	Hydrologist (ET/Water Use) (NRS 2) recruitment – hired
May 2022 – Jun 2022	Hydrographer (NRS 2) recruitment – hired
Jun 2022 – current	Senior Hydrologist (Field) (NRS 4) recruitment – interviewing
Jun 2022 – current	Senior Hydrologist (Water Availability) (NRS 4) recruitment– interviewing
Aug 2022 – current	Reclassification of filled AS 1 to NRS 1
TBD	Hydrologist (Water Availability) (NRS 3) recruitment– position in development
TBD	Hydrographer (NRS 2) recruitment – position in development
Nov 2021 – Dec 2022	Project Management for Work Reimagined for Salem office
Jul 2021 – Jun 2023	Manage multiple water use/ET grants (i.e., DRI, USGS, NASA, and open RFP)

### Water Availability, Drought, ET/Water Use, and Field Hydrology

Jan 2022 – Dec 2022	Perform analysis to identify gaps in the natural flow gage network
Jul 2021 – Jun 2022	Hydrologic analysis to support protest backlog reduction
Oct 2022 – Feb 2023	Provide technical support for the Drought Vulnerability Study
Nov 2022 – Feb 2023	Establish satellite-based ET partnerships and engage in stakeholder outreach to learn about, support, and coordinate technical and outreach work in Oregon
Jul 2021 – Jun 2023	Establish and implement contract to develop and publish data and report for field-scale and HUC-12 summaries of water use from 1985 through 2021
Jun 2022 – Jun 2023	Coordinate Agrimet station network expansion (BOR, Extension, OCS)
Jul 2021 – Jun 2023	Walla Walla Basin Study – Implement SW plan, collab with others on data collection; analyze SW data with respect to other datasets and analysis
Oct 2022 – Jun 2023	Statewide Recharge Study – Plan and initiate
Jul 2021 – Jun 2023	Technical support for Deschutes, Umatilla, Klamath, and Walla Walla planning
Aug 2022 – Jun 2023	Initiate CREP program in partnership with East Region, OWEB, and Farm Service

### Hydrographics

Jul 2021 – Jun 2023	Install new gages in Walla Walla, Crooked River, and other basins
Jul 2021 – Jun 2023	Develop electronic field forms in collaboration with IS and FS
Jul 2021 – Jun 2023	Develop and implement Hydro Training-Team to support consistent data quality
Aug 2022 – Jun 2023	Implement crest stage-gage program for flood monitoring
Sep 2022 – Jun 2023	Publish backlog stream/diversion records pertinent to basin studies and HB 2018

## Work on Hold

**Update Water Availability** – Update natural streamflow and consumptive use and consider updating the modeling approach; requires significant rebuilding of agency tools and capacity. *IWRS 1.B, 5.B, and 13.B*

**Perform Statewide Gage Network Evaluation** – Assess effectiveness of the network. *IWRS 1.B and 1.C*

**Update Deschutes Mitigation Model** – Integrate recommended improvements. *IWRS 1.B*

**Improve public access to data** – Develop dataset tools, visualizations, and other technical assistance, including updating frequently used tools. *IWRS 1.B and 1.C*

# Dam Safety Section 2021-23 Biennium Work Priorities and Projects

The Dam Safety Section within the [Oregon Water Resources Department](#) (WRD) regulates over 950 dams throughout Oregon. The work of the Dam Safety Section ensures the safety of dams, insofar as dams may affect possible loss of life, damage to property, and damage to public infrastructure as outlined in Statute<sup>1</sup>, Administrative Rule<sup>2</sup>, and WRD's [Integrated Water Resources Strategy](#) and [2019-24 Strategic Plan](#). The purpose of this document is to highlight Dam Safety Section priorities and projects for the 2021-23 biennium. We would like to transparently communicate what we are doing and what we will not be able to do this biennium.

## Ongoing Operations - Day-to-day work and standard section business that spans the biennium

- **Dam Inspections** - Inspect dams checking for signs which indicate that maintenance or corrective action is needed to prevent dam failure.
- **Inspection Correspondence** - Provide customer service by communicating the results to dam owners via an inspection summary letter and offer opportunity to meet and discuss.
- **Maintenance/Corrective Actions** - Implement Dam Safety Rules by assigning maintenance and corrective actions as needed. *IWRS 7C*
- **Training** - Build a strong Dam Safety team with technical excellence by providing training to Department staff and Oregon Department of Agriculture staff who conduct dam safety inspections.
- **Inspection Review** - Review dam inspections and correspondence completed by field staff and provide feedback to maintain program consistency.
- **Contracts** - Develop and administer contract work for engineering analyses for \$1M in General Fund and \$4M in ARPA funds provided by the Oregon Legislature for the 2021-2023 biennium. *IWRS 5.5B & 5.5C*
- **National Dam Safety Program (NDSP) Grant** - Develop the FEMA NDSP grant annual application and track work funded by the grant on a quarterly basis.
- **High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) Grants** - Complete risk analysis, flood plain management plans, and administer contracts for the FEMA HHPD grants awarded to Dam safety for funding years 2019, 2020, 2021 and prepare quarterly progress reports. Develop grant applications for funding year 2022 and 2023. *IWRS 5.5B & 7A*
- **Design Review** - Review designs for new dams and modifications to existing dams to provide a high level of protection to life, public infrastructure, and property. Coordinate with dam owners/engineers to ensure timely approval of design submittals. *IWRS 7C*
- **Emergency Action Plans** - Coordinate with dam owners on plan updates and exercises. *IWRS 7C*
- **Program Administration** - Perform Dam Safety Program administrative functions including updating the dam safety database and responding to dam safety fee inquiries and public records requests, modernizing the dam safety filing system, and destroying old files that have exceeded record retention time limits.

## Work on Hold - Efforts put on hold due to lack of capacity and other priorities

- **Dam Hazard Rating** - Re-assess hazard ratings for Low and Significant hazard dams to ensure the anticipated risk to public safety is correct. *IWRS 5.5B*
- **Engineering Analyses** - Perform dam safety engineering analyses including analysis of spillway capacity, probable maximum precipitation/probable maximum flood, and seismic stability. *IWRS 5.5B & 5.5C*
- **Levee Assessment** - Assessing the location and risk of non-Federally regulated levees. *IWRS 7A*
- **Conduit Condition Assessment** - Assessing the condition of aging conduits that are past the design life and increase the risk of dam failure.

<sup>1</sup> Oregon Revised Statute 540.443 through 540.491 and ORS 540.995, as well as applicable sections of ORS 536.050 and ORS 537.400

<sup>2</sup> Oregon Administrative Rule 690-020-0000 through 690-020-0600

## 2021-2023 Dam Safety Projects

The following are Dam Safety projects planned for the 2021-23 biennium to be done in coordination with others in the Department and external partners. Please note all timelines are tentative and will likely change, given the need to adaptively manage projects and workloads.

	Project	Tentative Timeframe
Dam Inspections	Inspect 77 High hazard dams and 30-50 Significant hazard dams	Mar-Dec (annually)
	Write dam safety inspection summary letters	Within 30 days of inspection
	Review Significant hazard dam inspection letters and coordinate with field staff	Within 14 days of receipt
	Document and file Low hazard dam inspection letters and coordinate with field staff	Jan-Dec (annually)
	Develop current year inspection plan	Jan-Feb of each year
	Assign maintenance and corrective actions as needed and track progress	Jul 2021-Jul 2023
Contract & Grant Administration	Develop, award, and administer contracts for \$1M General Fund authorized by <a href="#">SB 5545</a>	Jul 2021-Jul 2023
	Develop, award, and administer contracts for \$4M ARPA funds authorized by <a href="#">HB 5006</a>	Jan 2022-July 2023
	Develop, award, and administer contracts for FEMA HHPD grant FY2021	Nov 2021-Jul 2023
	Quarterly and annual reports for FEMA HHPD FY2019, 2020, 2021	Jan, Mar, Jul, Oct - annually
	Quarterly and annual reports for FEMA NDSP FY2020, 2021, 2022	
	Develop application for FEMA HHPD FY2022 and 2023	May/June annually
	Develop application for FEMA NDSP FY2022 and 2023	
Engineering	Review designs for new dams and modifications to existing dams and coordinate with dam owners/engineers	Complete review within 4, 6, or 12 weeks of complete submittal depending on hazard rating
	Geotechnical and Hydrologic/Hydraulic Risk Analysis for FEMA HHPD FY2019 and 2020	Jul 2021-Jul 2023
	Flood Plan Management Plans for FEMA HHPD FY2019 and 2020	
	Re-assess dam hazard ratings for Low and Significant hazard dams	On hold until July 2023
	Spillway capacity analyses	
	Probable maximum precipitation/probable maximum flood analyses	
	Seismic stability analyses	
	Assess the location and risk of non-Federally regulated levees	On hold*
Condition assessment of aging conduits	On hold*	
Administration	Coordinate with dam owners on emergency action plan updates and exercises	Jan-Dec (annually)
	Modernize Dam Safety files - scanning dam safety physical files, organizing electronic files, and destroying old files that have exceeded the records retention time limits	Jul 2021-Jul 2023
	Professional Engineer 1 recruitment	Mar 2023
	Update the dam safety database/data entry	Jul 2021-Jul 2023 as needed
	Stakeholder/public coordination - responding to dam safety fee inquiries, requests from dam owners, and public records requests	

\*Pending funding for additional resources





# Well Construction and Compliance Section

## 2021-23 Biennium Work Priorities and Projects

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Well Construction and Compliance seeks to ensure that well constructors and landowners use proper well construction, maintenance, and abandonment techniques to protect aquifers. The program administers well construction standards, conducts well inspections and well report reviews, administers well constructor continuing education and licensing, records exempt use wells, issues well identification labels, and reviews requests for special standards.

### Current Operations

**Compliance** - Work to gain voluntary compliance from the well construction industry when deficiencies are noted during well inspections and well report reviews.

**Special Standard Program** - Communicate laws, rules, program policies and procedures to well construction industry and staff. Develop and deliver technical training to well construction industry, well inspectors and the public. Review special standard requests to deviate from minimum well construction standards and review the construction of wells associated with submitted water right applications.

**Technical Well Report Review Program** - Coordinate the well report review program to ensure the statewide consistency of statute, rule, and policy interpretation associated with the construction, alteration, and abandonment of wells. Develop and deliver training to staff on the tracking and repair of well construction deficiencies. Review deficiencies noted during report reviews to assess well constructor training needs and track the resolution status of deficiencies noted during reviews to ensure issues are resolved.

**Well Constructor Licensing Program** - Proctor license examinations on a quarterly basis and issue licenses to qualified applicants. Coordinate the well constructor continuing education program. Support the well constructor continuing education committee. Coordinate the well constructor license renewal process and update the database to reflect changes.

**Geotechnical Hole Program** - Coordinate the review of geotechnical hole reports and invoice for associated fees, and coordinate amendments to well reports as directed by technical well report reviewers.

**Well Identification Program** - Respond to inquiries from the public in regard to wells associated with specific properties. Coordinate the well I.D. program for new wells and wells associated with property transfers and coordinate the updating and publishing of OWRD's Well Owner Handbook.



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# 2021-2023 Well Construction and Compliance Projects and Timelines

## Administration

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Well Construction Compliance Coordinator (NRS4) recruitment – hired	Jan 2022
Well Construction Program Coordinator (NRS3) recruitment - hired	Mar 2022
Exempt Use Program Coordinator (NRS2) moved to Well Program Specialist (NRS2)	Jan 2022

## Exempt Use Program

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Modify IT systems to move collection of exempt use fee from the well owner after well is constructed to the well driller at time of report submittal	Jul 2021 – Jan 2022
Modify IT systems to require the submittal of an exempt use map from well constructor at the time a well report is filed	Jul 2021 – Jan 2022
Move collection of exempt use fees from the Well Construction and Compliance Section to the Fiscal Section	Jul 2021 – Jan 2022
Communicate exempt use fee collection changes to drilling industry and the public	Jul 2021 – Jan 2022
Rulemaking to incorporate changes to program based on HB 2145 (2021)	TBD
Complete exempt use invoice process for well reports submitted prior to Jan 1, 2022	Jan 2022 - Jul 2022

## Well Construction Program

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Modify IT systems to increase Start Card fee from \$225 to \$350	Jul 2021 – Jan 2022
Create IT system that will allow for the review and tracking of 100% of the well reports submitted within 120 days of submittal	Jan 2022 – Jul 2022
Develop internal personnel processes that will allow for the review and tracking of 100% of the well reports submitted within 120 days of submittal	Jan 2022 – Jul 2022
Create reports to provide information and statistics in regard to 100% well report reviews and deficiency resolution	Jan 2022 – Oct 2022
Create reports to provide information regarding well report reviews to drilling industry within 120 days of submittal	Jan 2022 – Jul 2022
Modify IT systems and paper forms to allow for the collection of additional required data from well drillers at the time of Start Card and well report submittal	Jul 2022 – Jul 2023
Establish well inspection protocols based on additional well construction data requirements	Jul 2022 – Jul 2023
Communicate Start Card and well report changes to the drilling industry/public	Jul 2021 – Oct 2024
Rulemaking to incorporate changes to program based on HB 2145 (2021)	TBD

## Continuing Education Committee

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Add two additional members to the Well Constructors Continuing Education Committee as required by HB 2145 (2021)	Jul 2022
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## Work on Hold

**Data Entry and Cleanup of Well Construction Records** – Requires significant investment in information services (IS) staff. Requested initial investment in 23-25 POP, will require additional funding.

**Assign a Unique Physical Location Identifier to Wells** – Requires an investment in IS staff, including an application developer. Requested initial investment in 23-25 POP, will require additional funding.