



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Water Resources Department

Technical Services Division

725 Summer St. NE, Suite A

Salem, OR 97301

(503) 986-0900

**MEETING SUMMARY
GROUNDWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

May 2, 2023

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

OREGON WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

**OWRD 3rd Floor Rogue Conference Room, Salem, Oregon
with Online Video/Phone Conference Option (Recording Links Below)**

Attendance:

<u>GWAC MEMBERS</u>	<u>OWRD STAFF</u>	<u>OTHERS</u>
Ken Bentz Phil Brown Marshall Gannett Ken Masten Floyd Sippel Richard Smith Susan Baker	Kris Byrd Laura Hartt Justin Iverson Kelly Meinz Kristi Seyfried Tim Seymour	Corie Lovrien (WRD) Nick Reese (WRD) Cole Hendrickson (DEQ) Devon Morales

A. Call to Order and introductions (~9:00)

Chair Phil Brown calls the meeting to order. GWAC members introduce themselves. Justin Iverson provides an overview of the meeting purpose.

<https://youtu.be/4XATID689PM?t=63>

B. Proposed Rule Change Review: Critical Groundwater Area Designation and Kelly Meinz, Water Policy Analyst, provides a presentation of proposed rule modifications to Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 690, Division 10 Designation of Critical Groundwater Areas.

<https://youtu.be/4XATID689PM?t=368>

GWAC discussion during Part I presentation included recommendations for mailed notices to taxlot owners in addition to electronic and newspaper notifications, potentially defining the term “patterns” of interference, and addressing commingling wells as potential sources of declining groundwater levels.

Tim Seymour, Assistant Groundwater Manager, provides a presentation of proposed rule modifications to Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 690, Division 10 Designation of Critical Groundwater Areas. Part II: Corrective Controls

<https://youtu.be/4XATID689PM?t=2260>

Our mission is to serve the public by practicing and promoting responsible water management.



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GWAC discussion during Part II of the presentation included developing an outreach program for areas that are approaching CGWA triggers to allow for groundwater users to take voluntary actions ahead of potential CGWA designation, clarification of terminology, and continued discussion of notification requirements.

The committee developed a joint recommendation to the Water Resources Commission regarding proposed Division 10 rulemaking. Richard Smith motions and Ken Bentz seconds,

“The Groundwater Advisory Committee recommends that the Division 10 rules include a rulemaking notification requirement to notify by mail all taxlot owners that have developed or may develop groundwater, exempt or permitted, within the proposed critical groundwater area boundary. For taxlot owners within a municipal or quasi-municipal water service area, only the water provider must be notified.”

The motion passed unanimously.

C. Proposed Rule Change Review: Well Construction (~10:40)

Kris Byrd, Well Construction Section Manager, and Laura Hartt, Water Policy Analyst, will provide a brief presentation and discussion of proposed rule modifications to Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 690, Divisions 190, 200, 205, 210, 215, 225, 240, and 260, pertaining to well construction. These rule changes are needed to implement 2019, 2021, and 2022 legislation as well as to restore a rule deleted previously through clerical error.

<https://youtu.be/4XATID689PM?t=5716>

GWAC discussion during this item included a clarification of rule applicability.

Floyd Sippel related his experience on the RAC and specifically discussion about welding requirements for monitoring well owners and startcard filing requirements and seal placement notification requirements when a work site is not within cell service. Regarding welding requirements, HB3343 contains an amendment that would allow Monitoring Well constructors to not have to comply with the rule regarding welding requirements.



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The committee developed a joint recommendation to the Water Resources Commission regarding proposed Division 10 rulemaking. Floyd Sippel motions and Richard Smith seconds,

“The Groundwater Advisory Committee recommends that the Department continue to work with the drilling community to develop a future option to text or leave a voice mail with the regional well inspector at least four hours ahead of work to comply with notification requirements when drilling in areas that lack internet access.”

The motion passed unanimously.

D. Rulemaking Updates: Groundwater Allocation (Multiple Divisions) and Harney Basin Program (Division 512)

Justin Iverson, Groundwater Section Manager, Laura Hartt, and Kelly Mainz provided an updated regarding recent rules advisory committee meetings. The Committee expressed a general preference for adding another meeting to the schedule to provide specific input to the Commission during the public comment periods for the two discussed rulemakings

<https://youtu.be/4XATID689PM?t=8548>

More information regarding all active rulemaking activity is available online:

<https://www.oregon.gov/owrd/programs/policylawandrules/OARS/Pages/ProposedRulemaking.aspx>

E. Public Comment - none

Meeting adjourned at 11:54