#### OREGON



#### WATER RESOURCES D E P A R T M E N T

# Item G - Project Implementation Update

# Informational Item

6/16/2023

Kim Fritz-Ogren, Planning, Collaboration, and Investments Section Manager



#### Planning, Collaboration, and Investments Section

Build partnerships and incentivize Oregonians to pursue integrated and innovative solutions for complex water challenges and an uncertain water future.





### Service Areas



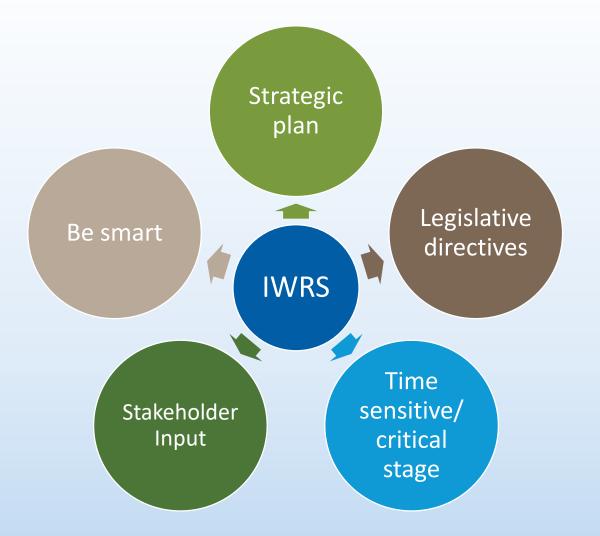
Strategic Investments Adaptive Planning

Cooperative Partnerships Accessible Effective Information Coordination

#### See Attachment 1



## What is guiding our priorities?



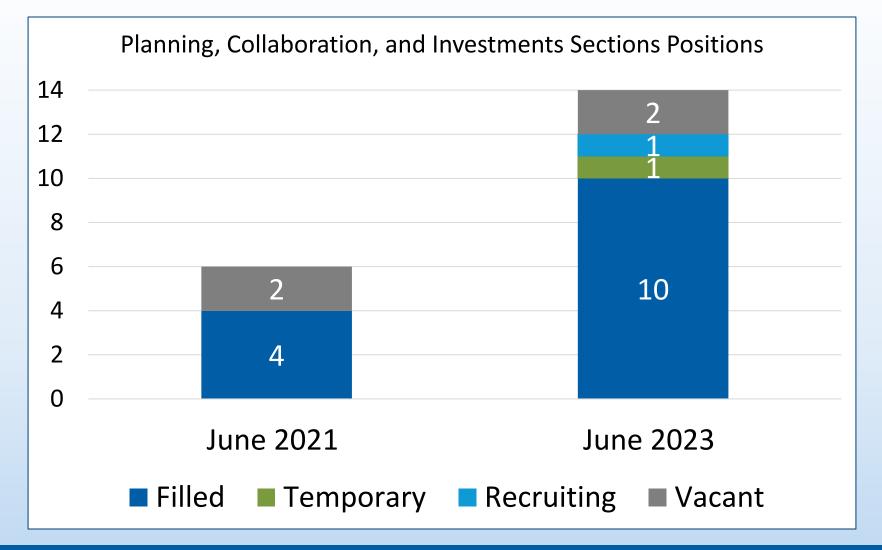


## Operations

- Annual funding cycles for <u>Feasibility Study Grants</u>
- Annual funding cycles for <u>Water Project Grants and Loans</u>
- Grant administration
- Place-based integrated water resources planning:
  - Upper Grande Ronde River Watershed Planning Partnership
  - Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership
  - Lower John Day Place-Based Partnership
  - Harney Community-Based Water Planning Collaborative
- Internal Department coordination in priority basins (Deschutes and Willamette)



## Priority: Hiring to increase capacity







- Direct appropriations (<u>HB 5006</u> \$46.5M)
- Well Abandonment, Repair, and Replacement Fund (<u>HB 2145</u>)
- Harney Domestic Well Remediation Fund (<u>HB 3092</u>)
- Best management practices for community engagement on water projects (<u>HB 3293</u>)
- Water Measurement Cost Share Fund



# Strategic Investments



## Operations

- Annual funding cycles for Feasibility Study Grants
- Annual funding cycles for Water Project Grants and Loans
- Grant administration

In June 2021 we had one grant staff person to do all this work

## Projects

- Direct appropriations (<u>HB 5006</u>
   \$46.5M)
- Well Abandonment, Repair, and Replacement Fund (<u>HB 2145</u>)
- Harney Domestic Well Remediation Fund (<u>HB 3092</u>)
- Best management practices for community engagement on water projects (<u>HB 3293</u>)
- Water Measurement Cost Share Fund



# Strategic Investments



Increase capacity	<ul> <li>Repurpose position</li> <li>Ask for positions</li> <li>Scale back where possible</li> </ul>	
Prioritize projects	<ul> <li>Focus first on need</li> <li>Consider impact</li> <li>Be smart/strategic</li> </ul>	
Adapt	<ul> <li>Reprioritize projects</li> <li>Shift hiring strategy</li> </ul>	



Well Abandonment, Repair, and Replacement Fund (WARRF)

### Statistics as of June 14, 2023

Number of applications received 2	252
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Grant funding requested ~\$6.3M

Number of grants awarded 151

Number of applications denied 69

Grant funding allocated ~\$4.0M

Number of grants closed out 78

Amount reimbursed

~\$2.4M



# Adaptive Planning



Past

- Planning Assessment
- Independent Evaluation of Place-Based Planning
- State-Supported Regional Water Planning and Management Work Group

#### Present

 Support legislative discussions regarding Water Planning Fund

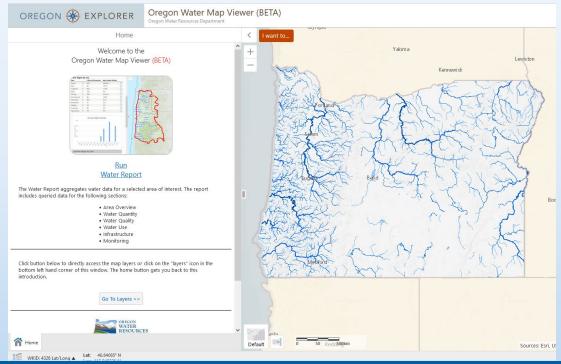
#### Future

#### • ????





## Water Planning Explorer and Oregon Water Data and Reporting Tools (with OSU Institute for Natural Resources)

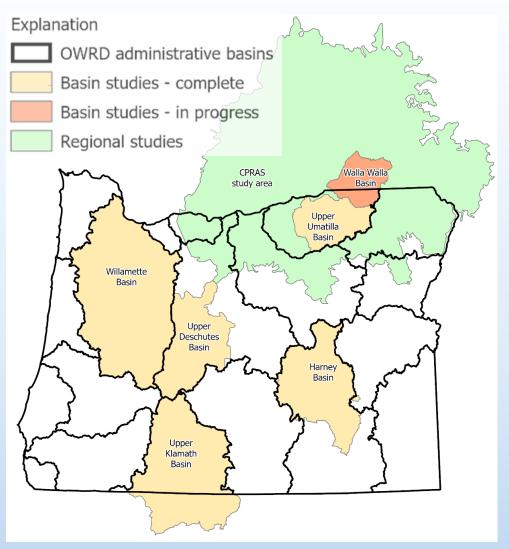




# Accessible Information



- Public engagement:
  - Walla Walla Groundwater Study and Walla Walla Water 2050 Plan
  - Statewide
     Evapotranspiration
  - Groundwater recharge



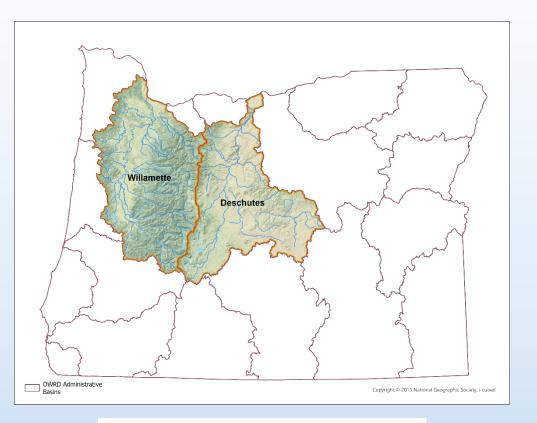


## **Effective Coordination**



Basin assessments and workplans:

- Deschutes: February 2023 – Item C
- Willamette: June 2023 – Item E



OWRD Administrative Basins

# Thank you. Questions?

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