



# 2023 Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS) Work Session

Water Resources Commission

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June 15, 2023

# Work Session Agenda

## Agenda

- Project Timeline
- Outreach & Engagement
- Context for 3<sup>rd</sup> IWRS
- 2017 IWRS Review
- Questions & Discussion



# IWRS Update Timeline

**2023**

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUNE JULY AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC

Public Input

Draft IWRS

Public  
Review

Revise  
Draft

**2024**

JAN FEB MAR APR

Public  
Review

Final  
IWRS

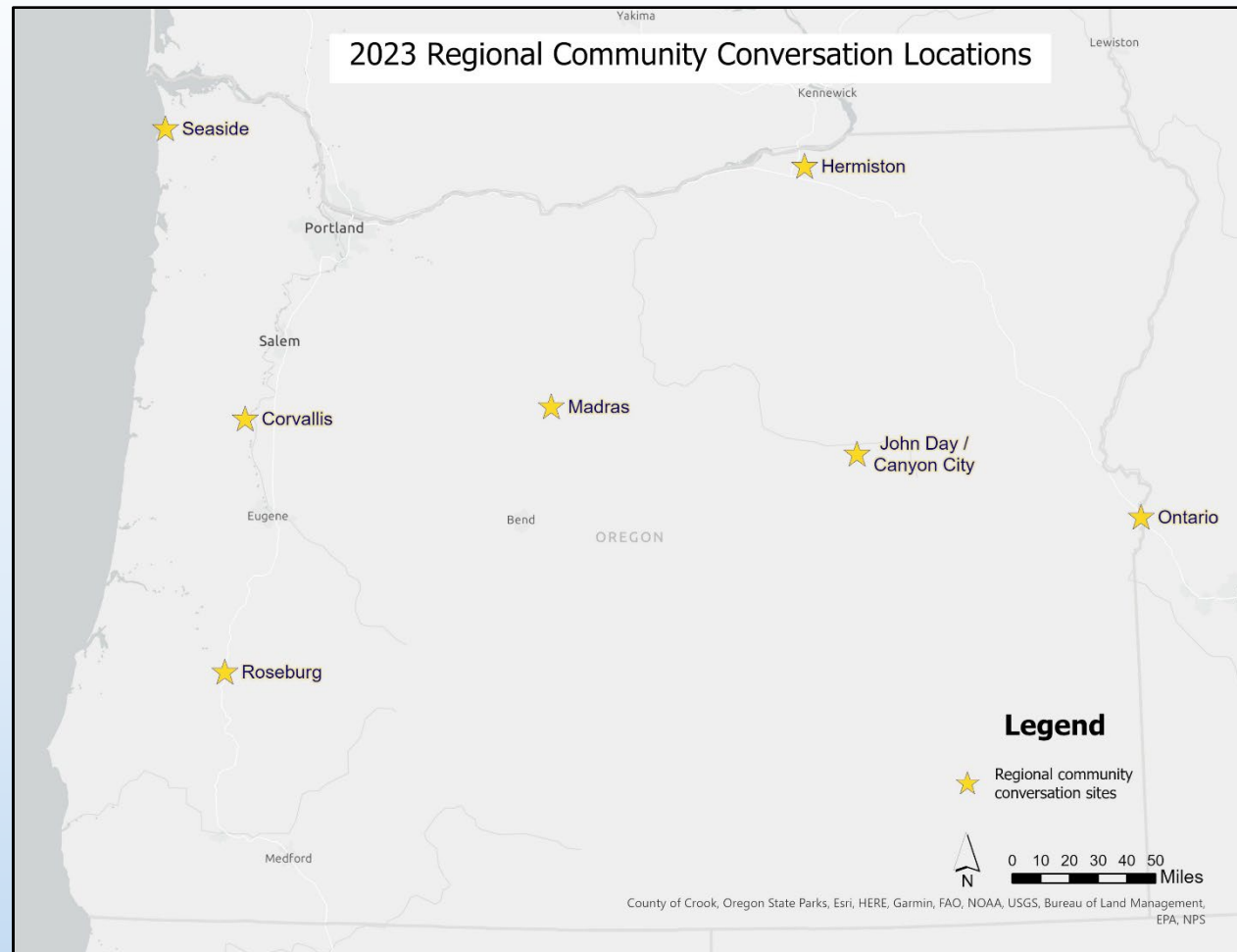


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# OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

# Outreach & Engagement

- 7 Regional Community Conversations (May 11-June 8)
- Self-led conversations in Southern Oregon & Baker County



## 7 Regional Community Conversations

### *Emerging Common Themes*

- More communication & education
- Better access to resources (staff, grants, etc.)
- Frustration with agency administrative processes
- Appreciation for local presence (Watermasters, SWCD's, Watershed Councils)
- Uncertainty in relation to climate change



## 7 Regional Community Conversations

### *Important Regional Differences*

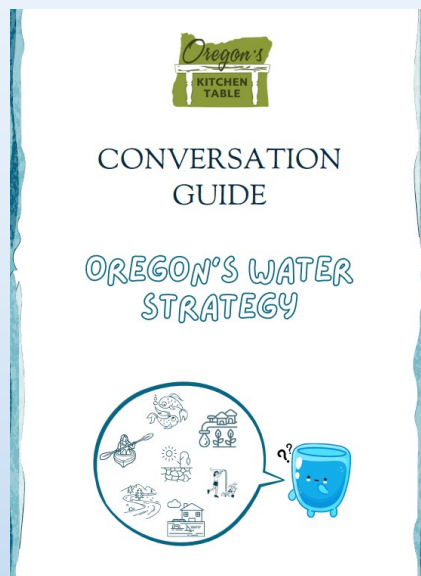
- Water supplies: groundwater versus surface water
- Impacts from sea level rise
- Contaminated drinking water
- Impacts associated with tourism
- Development trends (golf courses versus housing)

# Outreach & Engagement

## Culturally Specific Listening Sessions

### OKT Community Organizers

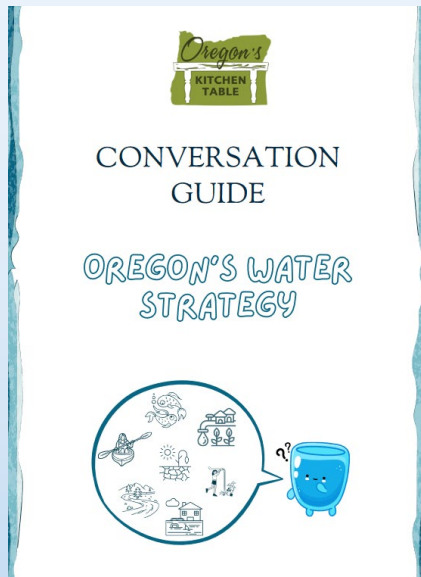
- Spanish speaking (Metro area, Medford, Madras)
- Pacific Islander community (Metro area)
- Slavic community (Metro area)
- Chinese community (mainly Metro, + other)
- Add'l surveys, conversations, gatherings





# Outreach & Engagement

## Culturally Specific Listening Sessions



## Youth-Specific Outreach

- April (2 events) - students from ~6 different communities
- May - students from Canby
- Educators
- Youth Organizers (one statewide, one in Salem)

# Outreach & Engagement



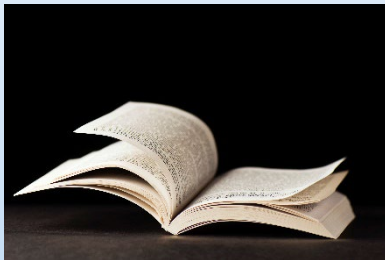
## Public Survey

- Open through June 15<sup>th</sup>
- About 1500 responses



## Changing Currents Tribal Water Summit

- June 26-30<sup>th</sup>



## Oregon's Kitchen Table Summary Report

- July 15<sup>th</sup>



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# CONTEXT FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> IWRS

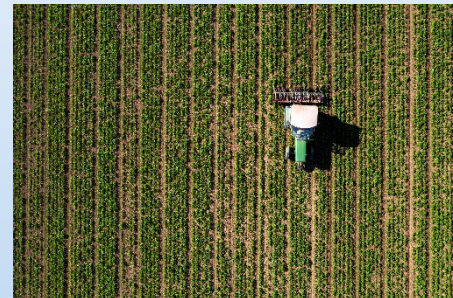
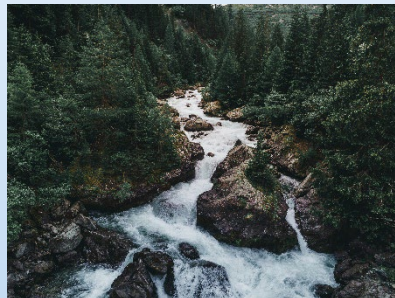
## Recent / Ongoing Water Concerns

- Consecutive years of drought
- Groundwater declines & contamination
- Unprecedented wildfires
- Failing water infrastructure



## 2021 Legislative Session Funding

- Water infrastructure
- Increased agency staffing (OWRD + others)
- Resources for data collection and studies
- Restoration and fish passage



## Relevant Statewide Reports

- 2017-2022 IWRS Progress Report
- Tribal Water Task Force Report (forthcoming)
- OCCRI's 6th Climate Assessment
- 100-Year Water Vision
- Oregon Water Futures Report / Justice Framework
- Secretary of State Water Advisory Report
- Oregon DEI Action Plan
- Oregon's Climate Change Adaptation Framework
- Regional Water Planning & Management Work Group



## Focus Areas

- Equity
- Climate Change
- 100-year Water Vision
- Others from public engagement





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# EQUITY IN THE IWRS



## External / Public Interest

- Oregon Tribes letter (2021)
- Oregon Water Futures (2021-22)
- 100-Year Water Vision (2019)
- HB5006 Work Group (2022)



The screenshot shows a news article from 'The World' with a dark header. The main headline is 'OREGON WATER JUSTICE FRAMEWORK'. Below it is a graphic illustration of a river flowing through a landscape with houses, trees, and a bridge. The article title below the graphic is 'OREGON'S 100-YEAR WATER VISION Executive Summary: Feedback from Outreach and Engagement'. The text above the graphic is partially visible, showing 'Letter: Oregon's nine tribes ask for' and 'Sep'.

≡ The World

Letter: Oregon's nine tribes ask for

fc

Sep

## OREGON WATER JUSTICE FRAMEWORK



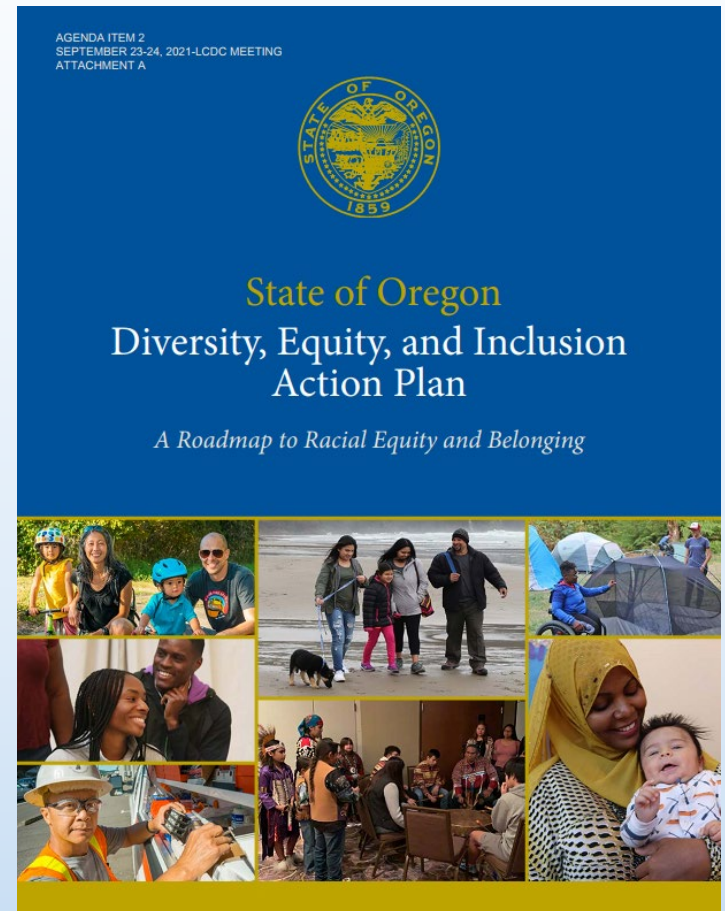
## OREGON'S 100-YEAR WATER VISION

Executive Summary: Feedback from Outreach and Engagement

# Equity in the IWRS

## State Initiatives

- OR DEI Action Plan (2021)
- Racial Justice Council (HB 2167, 2021)
- Racial Impact Statements / RAC Participation (HB 2993, 2021)
- State Concurrent Resolution 17 (SCR17, 2021)
- Environmental Justice Council (2022)
- SOS Advisory Report (2023)



# Observations from 2017 IWRS

- Identify Tribal collaboration
- EJ as guiding principle, beyond Public Health
- EJ data gaps and opportunities
- Expand historical context
- Elevate affordability and access
- “Unseen” populations: renters, farmworkers
- Identify leadership and accountability



Image from Oregon Water Justice Framework



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# CLIMATE CHANGE

## OCCRI – 6<sup>th</sup> Oregon Climate Assessment

*January 2023*

- State of Climate Science
- Natural Hazards
- Adaptation Sectors
  - Economics
  - Natural Systems
  - Built Environment
  - Public Health
  - Tribal Resilience to Climate Change
  - Social Systems



## IWRS Considerations

- Acknowledge the climate change implications with environmental justice
- Add language to some recommended actions (e.g., studying supplies, forecasting demands)
- Add wildfires to 'Extreme Events'
- Closer link between protection/restoration of natural systems and resilience functions



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# 100-YEAR WATER VISION

# 100-Year Water Vision

## 4 Goals:



## Nine Challenges

- Water Availability
- Clean Water
- Ecosystems
- Community Security
- Data & Information Services
- Community Capacity
- Investments in Water
- Water Investment Decision-Making
- Education & Culture

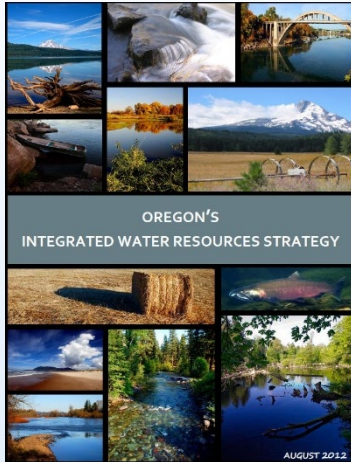




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# 2017 IWRS REVIEW

# 2017 IWRS Review



**2017**

Oregon's  
IWRS  
3<sup>rd</sup> Edition

**2012**

**2023**



## Changes between 2012 and 2017 Versions

- Kept 2012 goals, objectives, guiding principles, and critical issues
- Added nine new recommended actions (currently 51 recommended actions)
- Continued emphasis on process

## Oregon's 2017 Integrated Water Resources Strategy

A framework for improving our understanding of Oregon's water resources and meeting our instream and out-of-stream needs, including water quantity, water quality, and ecosystem needs



**( 1 ) Understand Water Resources Today**

Further Understand Limited Water Supplies & Systems  
(groundwater, surface water, and their interaction)

Improve Water Quality & Quantity Information      Further Understand Our Water Management Institutions

**Understanding Water Resources / Supplies / Institutions**  
 1.A Conduct additional groundwater investigations  
 1.B Improve water resource data collection & monitoring  
 1.C Coordinate inter-agency data collection, processing, and use in decision-making

← OBJECTIVES →

← CRITICAL ISSUES →

RECOMMENDED  
← ACTIONS →

**( 2 ) Understand Instream and Out-of-Stream Needs**

Further Define Out-of-Stream Needs / Demands  
(i.e., diverted water)

Further Define Instream Needs / Demands  
(i.e., left-in-place water)

**Understanding Oregon's Out-of-Stream Needs/Demands**  
 2.A Regularly update long-term water demand forecasts  
 2.B Improve water-use measurement & reporting  
 2.C Determine adjudicated water right claims  
 2.D Authorize the update of water right records with contact information  
 2.E Regularly update Oregon's water-related permitting guide

**Understanding Oregon's Instream Needs/Demands**  
 3.A Determine flows needed (quality & quantity) to support instream needs  
 3.B Determine needs of groundwater dependent ecosystems

**( 3 ) Understand the Coming Pressures That Affect Our Needs and Supplies**

Economic Development      Water & Energy      Climate Change      Extreme Events

Population Growth      Water & Land Use      Water-Related Infrastructure      Education & Outreach

**Water & Energy**  
 4.A Analyze the effects on water from energy development projects & policies  
 4.B Take advantage of existing infrastructure to develop non-traditional hydroelectric power  
 4.C Promote strategies that increase/integrate energy & water savings

**Water & Land Use**  
 6.A Improve integration of water information into land use planning (and vice versa)  
 6.B Improve state agency coordination  
 6.C Encourage low-impact development practices and green infrastructure

**Water-Related Infrastructure**  
 7.A Develop and upgrade water and wastewater infrastructure  
 7.B Encourage regional (sub-basin) approaches to water and wastewater systems  
 7.C Ensure public safety/dam safety

**Education and Outreach**  
 8.A Support Oregon's K-12 environmental literacy plan  
 8.B Provide education and training for Oregon's next generation of water experts  
 8.C Promote community education and training opportunities  
 8.D Identify ongoing water-related research needs

**Climate Change**  
 5.A Support continued basin-scale climate change research efforts  
 5.B Assist with climate change adaptation & resiliency strategies

**Extreme Events**  
 5.5A Plan and prepare for drought resiliency  
 5.5B Plan and prepare for flood events  
 5.5C Plan and prepare for a Cascadia subduction earthquake event

**Economic Development & Population Growth**  
 (See Actions 2A and 3A)

← OBJECTIVES →

← CRITICAL ISSUES →

RECOMMENDED  
← ACTIONS →

**( 4 ) Meet Oregon's Instream and Out-of-Stream Needs**

Place-Based Efforts      Water Management & Development

Healthy Ecosystems      Public Health      Funding

**Place-Based Efforts**  
 9.A Continue to undertake place-based integrated, water resources planning  
 9.B Coordinate implementation of existing natural resource plans  
 9.C Partner with federal agencies, tribes, and neighboring states in long-term water resources management

**Water Management & Development**  
 10.A Improve water-use efficiency and water conservation  
 10.B Improve access to built storage  
 10.C Encourage additional water reuse projects  
 10.D Reach environmental outcomes with non-regulatory alternatives  
 10.E Continue the water resources development program  
 10.F Provide an adequate presence in the field  
 10.G Strengthen water quantity & water quality permitting programs

**Healthy Ecosystems**  
 11.A Improve watershed health, resiliency, and capacity for natural storage  
 11.B Develop additional instream protections  
 11.C Prevent and eradicate invasive species  
 11.D Protect and restore instream habitat and habitat access for fish and wildlife  
 11.E Develop additional groundwater protections

**Public Health**  
 12.A Ensure the safety of Oregon's drinking water  
 12.B Reduce the use of and exposure to toxics and other pollutants  
 12.C Implement water quality pollution control plans

**Funding**  
 13.A Fund development and implementation of Oregon's IWRS  
 13.B Fund water resources management activities at state agencies  
 13.C Invest in local or regional water planning efforts  
 13.D Invest in feasibility studies for water resources projects  
 13.E Invest in implementation of water resources projects



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**DATA, WATER SUPPLIES**

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← CRITICAL ISSUES →

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(See Actions 2A and 3A)

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## **Understanding Water Resources / Supplies / Institutions**

- 1.A Conduct additional groundwater investigations
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## ( 2 ) Understand Instream and Out-of-Stream Needs

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# QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

# Question #1

What are the strengths of the current IWRS?

What do you like about the current IWRS?



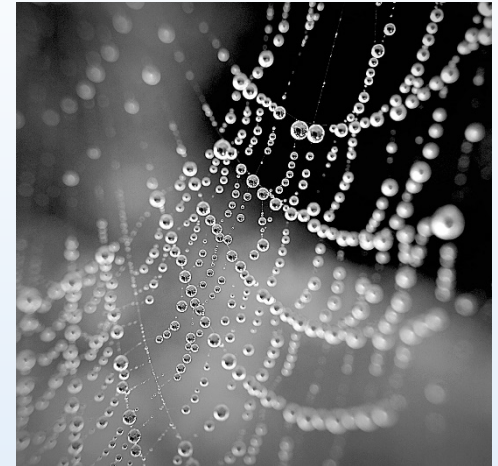
## Question #2

What would you add or change about the current IWRS?



## Question #3

Are there areas you have identified where the IWRS can better consider and address water equity?



## Question #4

We will be meeting with other commissions and boards this summer.

What do you hope we can learn from these meetings?





## Question #5

Are there any changes you would make to the Strategy to improve collaboration and implementation?



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