



# 2024 Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS) Draft for Public Review

Water Resources Commission

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# Agenda

- Project Timeline
- Vision & Call to Action
- Draft Framework
- Draft #1
- Questions & Discussion



# IWRS Project Timeline

# 2024 IWRS Draft Timeline

## 2023

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

Public Input

Draft IWRS

## 2024

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

Agency  
Review

#1  
Public  
Review

#2  
Public  
Review

WRC  
Reviews &  
Adopts

Water Resources  
Commission  
meets 9/12-13

# Vision & Call to Action



## Oregon's 2024 Integrated Water Resources Strategy - Draft 1, March 2024

### Water Challenges Across Oregon

Oregon faces a number of water challenges that impact the quality and quantity of water for instream and out-of-stream needs, including:

- Too much demand for too little water for in-stream and out-of-stream uses;
- A half century of underinvestment in our water resources and infrastructure;
- Our changing population and associated development – growing in some areas, shrinking in others; and
- Climate change and associated increases in temperature, wildfire, drought, damaging floods, and harmful algal blooms.

### Vision

To address changes in climate and population dynamics, Oregonians will take care of our surface water, groundwater, and built and natural infrastructure to ensure we have enough clean water for our people, our economy, and our environment now and for future generations. Oregonians will invest strategically in partnerships and planning, data and analysis, and water stewardship for instream and out-of-stream needs across all regions to support resilient communities, vibrant local economies, and a healthy environment for all who live here.

### Call to Action

We must both act now and plan for the long term, otherwise we will place the safety of our communities, the health of our people and environment, and Oregon's economic future at risk. How we choose to care for our surface and groundwater and our built and natural infrastructure, will determine if we pass a legacy of clean and sustainable water to future generations. A coordinated effort of immediate actions and thoughtful planning for the future are needed. The Strategy outlines the inter-agency actions and public-private partnerships needed to understand and meet Oregon's instream and out-of-stream water needs, to create a foundation for coordinated action and funding.

The 2024 Integrated Water Resources Strategy proposes actions 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, in the following categories:

#### Funding

*Oregon must invest now to secure our water future*

- Funding

#### Partnerships and Planning

*All Oregonians must work together and plan for our water future*

- Education & Outreach
- Land Use Planning
- Coordination & Collaboration
- Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning & Extreme Events
- Water Planning

#### Data and Analysis

*Oregon needs foundational information to make wise decisions and pursue innovation*

- Water Resource/Supply Information
- Out-of-Stream Water Needs
- Instream & Ecosystem Water Needs

#### Stewardship

*Oregon must secure its water future through active management and stewardship of its resources*

- Healthy Ecosystems
- Water Infrastructure
- Clean Water
- Water & Energy
- Water Use & Management

## Excerpted from 100-Year Water Vision – Revised for IWRS

To address changes in climate and population dynamics, Oregonians will take care of our **surface water, groundwater, and built and natural infrastructure** to ensure we have enough clean water for our people, our economy, and our environment, now and for future generations. Oregonians will invest strategically in **partnerships and planning, data and analysis, and water stewardship for instream and out-of-stream needs** across all regions to support resilient communities, vibrant local economies, and a healthy environment for all who live here.

# Call to Action

## Excerpted from 100-Year Water Vision Call to Action – Revised for IWRS

We must both act now and plan for the long term, otherwise we will place the safety of our communities, the health of our people and environment, and Oregon’s economic future at risk. How we choose to care for our **surface and groundwater and our built and natural infrastructure** will determine if we pass a legacy of clean and sustainable water to future generations. **A coordinated effort of immediate actions and thoughtful planning for the future are needed.** The Strategy outlines the inter-agency actions and public-private partnerships needed to understand and meet Oregon’s instream and out-of-stream water needs, to create a foundation for **coordinated action and funding.**





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# 2024 Draft Framework



## Oregon's 2024 Integrated Water Resources Strategy Framework and Actions - Draft 1, March 2024

Focusing on: Climate change, population growth, land use change, economic impacts, and energy demand

### Goal 1: Improve Understanding of Oregon's Water Resources

- Objective 1: Understand Water Resources
- Objective 2: Understand Instream and Out-of-Stream Needs
- Objective 3: Understand the Pressures that Affect Our Needs and Supplies

### Goal 2: Meet Oregon's Water Resources Needs

- Objective 4: Meet Oregon's Instream and Out-of-Stream Needs

## Chapter 1: Funding

### Funding

- 1A [13A] – Fund Development and Implementation of Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy
- 1B [13B] – Fund Water Resources Management Activities at State Agencies
- 1C [13C-13E] – Invest in Planning, Feasibility Studies, and Water Resource Project Implementation

## Chapter 2: Partnerships and Planning

### Education & Outreach

- 2A [8C] – Promote Community Education and Outreach
- 2B [8A] – Support Implementation of K-12 Environmental Literacy Plan
- 2C [8B] – Provide Career Training for the Next Generation of Water Professionals
- 2D [8D] – Identify Water Research Needs & Partnerships

### Coordination & Collaboration [new]

- 3A [9C] – Partner with Tribes, Federal Agencies, and Neighboring States in Long-Term Water Resources Management
- 3B [6B] – Improve State Interagency Coordination
- 3C [new] – Lead Meaningful Community Engagement

### Water Planning

- 4A [9A] – Support Integrated Place-Based Planning and Other Water Planning Efforts
- 4B [9B] – Coordinate State and Local Natural Resource Plans

### Land Use Planning

- 5A [6A] – Improve Integration of Water Information and Land Use Planning
- 5B [6C] – Encourage Low Impact Development Practices and Green Infrastructure

### Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning & Extreme Events

- 6A [5.5A] – Plan and Prepare for Drought & Wildfire Resiliency
- 6B [5.5B] – Plan and Prepare for Flood Events
- 6C [5.5C] – Plan and Prepare for a Cascadia Earthquake & Tsunami Event

## Chapter 3: Data and Analysis

### Water Resource/Supply Information

- 7A [1B] – Improve Water Resource Data Collection and Monitoring
- 7B [1A] – Conduct Additional Groundwater Basin Studies
- 7C [1C] – Enhance Interagency Data Coordination
- 7D [5A] – Support Basin-Scale Climate Change Research

### Instream & Ecosystem Water Needs

- 8A [4A] – Analyze the Effects on Water from Energy Development Projects and Policies
- 8B [3A] – Determine Instream Flow Needs (Quality and Quantity)
- 8C [3B] – Determine Needs of Groundwater-Dependent Ecosystems
- 8D [new] – Develop Instream & Ecosystem Water Demand Forecasts

### Out-of-Stream Water Needs

- 9A [2B] – Improve Water-Use Measurement and Reporting
- 9B [2A] – Regularly Update Out-of-Stream Water Demand Forecasts

## Chapter 4: Stewardship

### Healthy Ecosystems

- 10A [11A] – Improve Watershed Health, Resiliency, and Capacity for Natural Storage
- 10B [11D] – Protect and Restore Instream Habitat and Fish Passage/Screening
- 10C [11B] – Develop Additional Instream Protections
- 10D [11C] – Prevent and Eradicate Invasive Species
- 10E [11E] – Develop Additional Groundwater Protections

### Clean Water

- 11A [12A] – Ensure the Safety of Oregon's Drinking Water
- 11B [12B] – Reduce the Use of and Exposure to Toxics and Other Pollutants
- 11C [12C] – Implement Water Quality Pollution Controls

### Water Use & Management

- 12A [2C] – Determine Unadjudicated Water Right Claims
- 12B [10A] – Improve Water-Use Efficiency and Water Conservation
- 12C [10C] – Encourage Water Reuse Projects
- 12D [10B] – Improve Access to Storage
- 12E [10D] – Reach Environmental Outcomes with Non-Regulatory Alternatives
- 12F [10F] – Provide an Adequate Field Presence
- 12G [10G] – Strengthen Water Quantity and Water Quality Permitting Programs

### Water Infrastructure

- 13A [7A] – Maintain, Upgrade, Decommission Water and Wastewater Infrastructure
- 13B [7B] – Encourage Regional (Sub-Basin) Water and Wastewater Systems
- 13C [7C] – Support Dam and Levee Safety

### Water & Energy

- 14A [4B] – Develop Non-Traditional Hydroelectric Power
- 14B [4C] – Promote Strategies that Increase/Integrate Energy and Water Savings

Note: 2017 IWRS numbering is shown in [brackets].

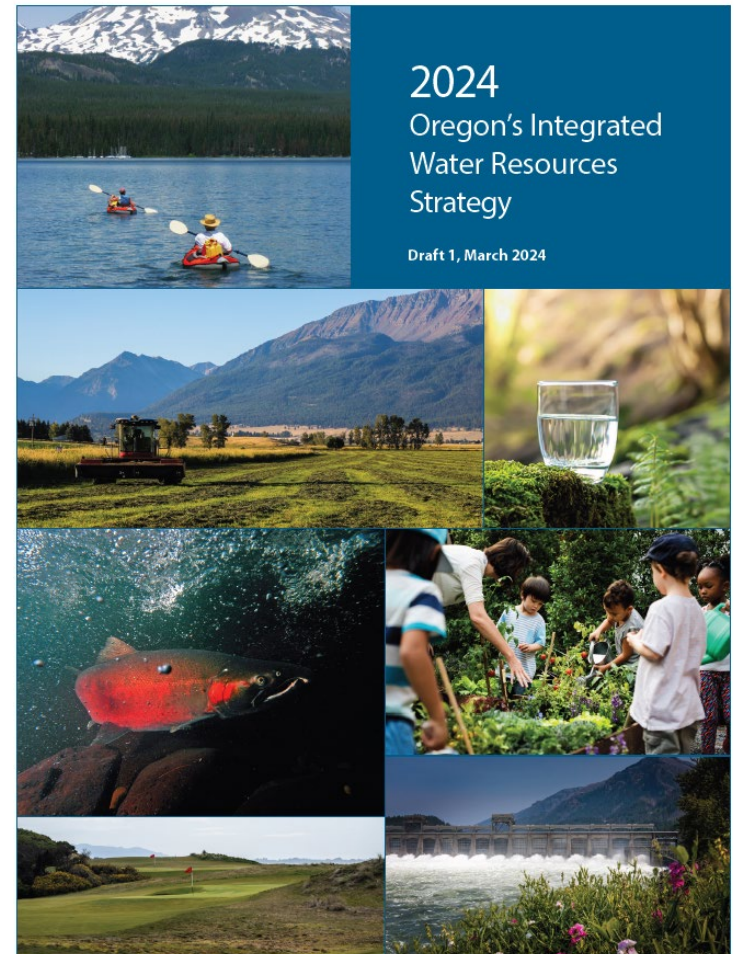
# 2024 IWRS Draft 1

## Draft 1

Public review

March 5 – April 5, 2024

[www.oregon.gov/owrd/programs/Planning/IWRS](http://www.oregon.gov/owrd/programs/Planning/IWRS)



## PART 1: OREGON'S WATER CONTEXT

### Governance

- Tribal, state, federal
- Roles, programs

### Laws & Regulations

- Federal
- State



## PART 2: STRATEGY ACTIONS

### Chapter 1 - Funding

- Moved from end (2017) to beginning
- 100-Year Water Vision = strategic investments
- Streamlined planning, feasibility, and project funding into one Action (1C)



## PART 2: STRATEGY ACTIONS

### Chapter 2 - Partnerships & Planning

- Co-locates 3 planning issues (local/regional, land use planning, and natural hazards/extreme events)
- New Action, 3C Lead Meaningful Community Engagement





## PART 2: STRATEGY ACTIONS

### Chapter 3 - Data & Analysis

- Co-locates 3 data needs (source, instream needs, and out-of-stream needs)
- Moved a climate change research action to this chapter (7D)
- New action for instream demand forecasts (8D), to parallel action for out-of-stream demand forecasts





## PART 2: STRATEGY ACTIONS

### Chapter 4 - Stewardship

- WRC input to rename chapter, formerly “Management & Stewardship”
- Begins with “Healthy Ecosystems” = foundational importance of natural infrastructure
- Changed “Public Health” to “Clean Water” to acknowledge humans and environment
- Locates “Infrastructure” near “Water Use & Management”



# Draft IWRS Action Summaries

- Who
- Why
- Example actions (includes equity and environmental justice, climate)
- Resources (funding, etc)

## Water Use & Management

### Action 12B Improve Water-Use Efficiency and Water Conservation

**Lead Agencies**  
ODA, OWEB, OWRD

**Supporting Agencies**  
ODEQ, ODFW, ODOE, USBR, NRCS

**Partners**  
Utilities, municipalities, irrigation districts, individuals, farmers, ranchers, SWCD's, watershed councils, OSU Extension

#### Background

Water conservation is one of the more widely recognized approaches to managing water demand and stretching limited water supplies. Water conservation, as defined in state law, is a means of eliminating waste or otherwise improving the efficiency of water use by modifying the technology or method of diverting, transporting, applying, or recovering water. Water conservation can also be accomplished through reuse, addressed in Action 12C. Water conserved through the Allocation of Conserved Water Program can benefit water instream, Action 10C.

The state lacks a comprehensive program to lead a coordinated approach to conservation across multiple water use sectors to provide a central point of guidance, technical assistance, and information regarding existing incentives or funding resources. Additional incentives are needed to expand water conservation in Oregon.

#### Example Actions

- Establish a **comprehensive** water-use efficiency and conservation program that provides **incentives and** technical assistance to water users in all sectors
- Conduct a statewide water conservation potential assessment, **considering high priority water management needs**
- **Prioritize and provide funding for agricultural water-use efficiency and conservation projects (often saving energy and supporting Action 14B)**
- **Develop or continue municipal incentives (e.g., xeriscaping rebates, metering, tiered rate structures)**
- Develop an outreach strategy to expand participation in already-existing water-use efficiency and conservation programs
- **Develop outreach materials, a user-friendly website, and online clearinghouse that highlights best practices, funding, and technical resources**
- **Ensure disadvantaged communities are not overburdened by mandatory or voluntary water conservation measures**
- **Borrow best practices and experience from energy efficiency programs in implementing water efficiency programs**
- **Partner with broadly supported well-developed energy efficiency programs that also save water (See Action14B)**

#### Resources

##### Agency Programs

OWRD's Water Management and Conservation Planning Program, OWRD's Allocation of Conserved Water Program  
*Funding*

OWRD's Grants & Loans Program, Statewide Irrigation Modernization Program, OWEB Grant Programs, USBR's Water and Energy Efficiency Grants, Energy Trust of Oregon incentive programs

##### Resources

[Water Conservation Fact Sheets \(for residential, farm/ranch, and municipal users \)](#)

[Allocation of Conserved Water Program](#)

[Instream Lease](#)

[Instream Transfer](#)

[Water Projects Grants and Loans and Irrigation Modernization Funding](#)

[Guidebook for Municipal Water Management and Conservation Plan](#)

[Guidebook for Agricultural Water Management and Conservation Plan](#)

[Oregon Smart Guide: Rainwater Harvesting](#)

[Alliance for Water Efficiency](#)

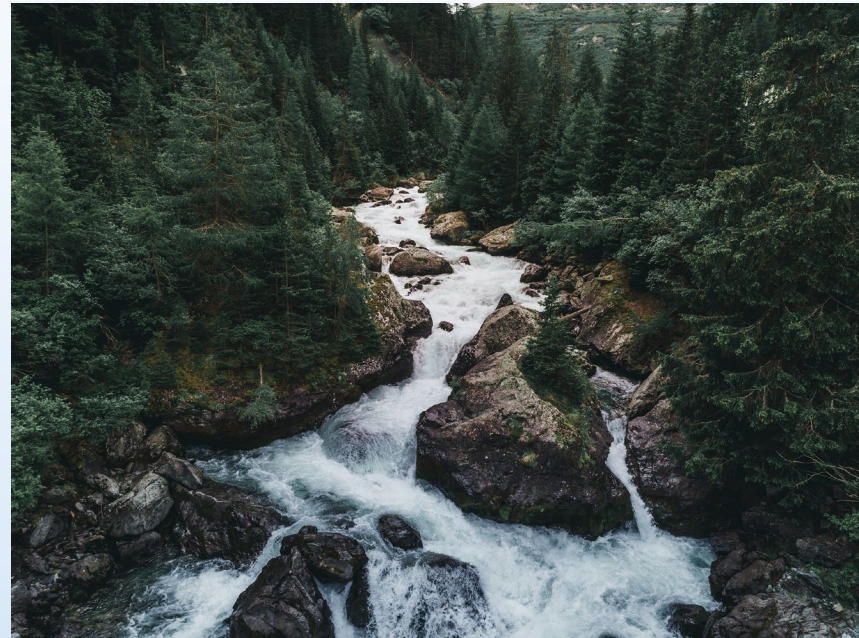
[Water Research Foundation](#)

# Questions & Discussion

# Questions/Discussion

## Discussion Topics:

- Vision & Call to Action
- Framework
- Draft 1



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