

**Oregon Conservation Plan for the Oregon Coast Coho
Agency Contributions Section**

SUMMARY OF NEW COMMITMENTS

Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) – New Statewide Concepts

OWRD has a number of existing programs and agency actions that contribute to Coast Coho Conservation efforts. In addition to these ongoing actions, OWRD has identified new statewide concepts that will also support the Conservation Plan, increase our understanding of water quantity as a limiting factor and benefit instream flows. The majority of these new statewide concepts are dependent on securing additional funding through grants or policy option packages (POP) proposed in the 2007-2009 Agency Request Budget. These concepts are described below as they relate to existing agency actions.

Water Distribution and Regulation

- Support statewide monitoring and reporting of instream water rights and water use through a 2007-2009 POP to restore the Department's Water Measurement and Reporting Specialist (POP 401, 1 FTE, GF- \$138,114)
- Add statewide capacity and modernize equipment for flow monitoring through a 2007-2009 POP request (POP 304, GF - \$100,000)
- Enhance monitoring and distribution capacities via a 2007-2009 POP to fund a Field Water Right Technician position in each of 5 regions (POP 303, 5 FTE, GF - \$686,965).
- Coordinate with OWEB to secure funding for volunteer streamflow monitoring and flow monitoring equipment.

Flow Restoration Programs

- Explore opportunities with OWEB to offset application costs for CREP participants that lease or transfer water rights associated with CREP enrolled lands.

Public Outreach and Education

- Assess opportunities to report regulation activities and other relevant data at the ESU or other scale in support of adaptive management under this and other Conservation Plans.
- Seek funding to add instream leasing, transfer, and allocation of conserved water data to the OWRD on-line data base. (National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Funding Awarded September 2006)
- Encourage responsible water management and conservation by irrigation districts and other agricultural water suppliers by developing a guidebook on preparing Agricultural Water Management and Conservation Plans and through outreach and workshops for irrigation district managers. (Bureau of Reclamation Funding Awarded July 2006)

Improvement of Resource Understanding

- Seek funding via a 2007-2009 POP and other sources to better understand long term statewide water supply needs (instream and out-of-stream), potential above and below ground storage opportunities, and conservation opportunities. ("Oregon Water Supply and Conservation Initiative," POP 403, 3 FTE, GF \$891,025)