

MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Resources Commission and Environmental Quality Commission

FROM: Meg Reeves, WRD Deputy Director
Mike Llewelyn, DEQ Water Quality Division Administrator

SUBJECT: Overview of Water Quantity and Quality Authorities
Joint Meeting of the WRC and EQC, June 6, 2002

The Water Resources Department (WRD) and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) have regulatory authority over different aspects of water management. WRD administers Oregon's water laws, which are based on the doctrine of prior appropriation. DEQ is responsible for protecting and restoring water quality in Oregon pursuant to the federal Clean Water Act and state law. A description of state water law and the water quality statutes will be presented as a foundation for considering the intersection of these authorities in Oregon. A brief description of water management and the fundamentals of Oregon's Water Code is also provided as Attachment 1 with an overview of DEQ programs related to water quality presented in Attachment 2.

Attachments:

1. Managing Oregon's Water
2. Water Quality Authorities