



**Integrated Water Resources Strategy  
Progress Report to the 76<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly**

**February 1, 2011**

**Oregon Water Resources Department  
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality  
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Oregon Department of Agriculture**

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# Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy

## February 1, 2011 Progress Report to the Oregon Legislature

### **Purpose**

Water is one of Oregon's most precious natural resources. With more than 100,000 miles of rivers and streams, 360 miles of coastline, and some of the cleanest lakes in the world, Oregon is renowned for its water. Our rivers and streams not only provide natural beauty, but they supply the water necessary for drinking, recreation, industry, agriculture, and fish and wildlife. Today, however, the management of water resources in Oregon is facing a number of significant challenges. Surface water is nearly fully allocated during the summer months and groundwater is showing declines in many areas. More than 1,861 waterbodies are impaired and not meeting water quality standards. Twenty-four fish species have been identified as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act, while another 31 are listed as state sensitive species.

During 2009, the 75<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 3369, directing the Water Resources Department to develop a statewide, Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS) to help Oregon meet its future water needs in terms of water quantity, water quality, and ecosystem functions.

House Bill 3369 states that the Water Resources Department shall develop a strategy to implement ORS 536.220(2), which calls for the state to "formulate a coordinated, integrated state water resources policy and provide means for its enforcement, that plans and programs for the development and enlargement of the water resources of this state be devised and promoted and that other activities designed to encourage, promote and secure the maximum beneficial use and control of such water resources and the development of additional water supplies be carried out by a single state agency..."

The bill further clarifies these mandates by stating that the Oregon Water Resources Department "shall design the strategy to meet Oregon's in-stream and out-of-stream water needs." The bill directs the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) to work in close cooperation with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), to develop the Integrated Water Resources Strategy and to develop data on an ongoing basis to forecast these needs. The bill also adds the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to the list of key agencies responsible for reporting progress on the Strategy in 2011. The Environmental Quality Commission, Fish and Wildlife Commission, and the Board of Agriculture shall receive notice prior to adoption of the Strategy.

The Water Resources Commission has responsibility for formal adoption of the Strategy.

The bill requires the Strategy to include objectives as well as actions designed to meet these objectives under the Strategy. It also requires: a description of relevant factors such as population growth and land-use change; plans and recommendations related to the challenges presented by climate change; provisions to ensure communication and partnership with key stakeholders; a description of functions and roles to be played by other agencies; and finally, public policy options and recommendations.

This report fulfills the requirements of House Bill 3369, describing progress made thus far and evaluating whether Oregon's first Integrated Water Resources Strategy will be completed by December 31, 2012. As set forth in ORS 192.245, an executive summary of this report has been provided to all members of the 76<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly. This progress report is available at [http://www.wrd.state.or.us/OWRD/LAW/docs/IWRS/2011\\_Progress\\_Report.pdf](http://www.wrd.state.or.us/OWRD/LAW/docs/IWRS/2011_Progress_Report.pdf). Hardcopies are available, upon request, from the Water Resources Department.

## Timeline

During the latter half of 2011, the four key Departments (OWRD, ODEQ, ODFW, and ODA) plan to release a draft set of recommended actions will be released for public review and comment. The Water Resources Commission plans to adopt the IWRS during 2012, after notifying other boards and commissions, as required by statute. The Strategy is due to the Oregon Legislature by December 31, 2012, with five-year updates occurring thereafter. Progress under the Strategy is currently on schedule with the five-phase timeline, with major tasks completed on time in Phases I and II.

Timeline				
<b>Phase I:</b> Setting the Stage (2009)	<b>Phase II:</b> Identifying Water Resource Needs (Spring & Summer 2010)	<b>Phase III:</b> Developing Recommended Actions (2010-2011)	<b>Phase IV:</b> Producing Oregon's 1 <sup>st</sup> Integrated Water Resources Strategy (2012)	<b>Phase V:</b> Implementation and Evaluation (2012-17)

**Phase I: Setting the Stage.** This Phase, which extended through December 2009, included fundamental activities that continue to be built upon. These activities are described below.

*1.1 Develop the Problem Statement.* During Phase I, the Departments, with help from Water Resources Commissioners, partners, and stakeholders, developed a set of issue papers to convey the urgency of planning for water. They are, in essence, the “problem statement,” and describe the status of Oregon’s water quantity, water quality, and ecosystems today. Stakeholders and the public have had an opportunity to review and comment on these draft papers throughout the project, either electronically, by mail, or verbally during Water Resources Commission meetings. The topics of these papers grew out of the themes identified during the 2008 Water Roundtables hosted by Oregon State University and Oregon Sea Grant and include: water quantity, water quality, ecology and ecosystems, economic development, culture and community, and the implications of climate change. During 2009-10, more than 300 comments were received on the papers. As a result, new essays have been added covering land-use, federal storage reservoirs, groundwater and surface water interaction, the role of natural storage and more. Version 2 of the issue papers were made publicly available in November 2010 and are currently available on-line. Public comments on the draft papers will be accepted until March 1, 2011.

*1.2 Design Overall Process.* A preliminary workplan for 2009 – 2012 was developed and includes a description of the statutory foundation, definitions, roles and responsibilities, project timeline, public involvement plan, process overview, meeting calendar, and a sample table of contents for Oregon’s Integrated Water Resources Strategy. The Water Resources Commission first reviewed and commented on the workplan during its September 2009 meeting, while at the same time, it was made available to partners, key stakeholders, and the public for review and comment. Like the issue papers, the workplan is available for public comment throughout the duration of the project.

During 2009, the Departments worked with partners and stakeholders to design a public involvement plan that identifies multiple opportunities to disseminate information, receive public comment, and involve stakeholders to help shape the Strategy. The public involvement plan includes outreach strategies using face-to-face meetings, print media, and electronic means. During Phase I, the Departments created a project website, electronic mailing list, and an email account for project use only.

Several stakeholders and partners invited project staff to meet with their boards and members during regularly scheduled events, to provide informational updates and conduct workshops related to the Integrated Water Resources Strategy. A public meeting calendar was developed as a way to reach many areas of the state efficiently and frequently. See Page 12 for a listing of these meetings.

*1.3 Develop Institutional Capacity and Organizational Structure.* As part of House Bill 3369, the Oregon Legislature authorized funding for the Water Resources Department to fill two positions to help develop the strategy, a science coordinator and a policy coordinator. Agency directors also appointed senior staff to a “Project Team” and an

“Agency Advisory Group,” and appointed 18 citizen-members to a “Policy Advisory Group.” A “Federal Liaison Group,” consisting of federal water and land-use agencies was also created. Information about each groups’ role is described in the following section titled “Institutional Structure.” This project has relied heavily on the volunteer and in-kind services of partners and stakeholders for facilitation, process consulting, materials, refreshments, and facilities.

Phase II: Identifying Water Resource Needs. This phase ran from January through August 2010 and focused heavily on public input, using a series of public events and stakeholder meetings, to identify and describe critical issues and potential solutions. Meeting details, results, and photos are now available on-line.

*2.1 Identify Critical Issues.* During 2010, project participants identified numerous issues that if addressed, could help Oregon better understand and meet its water needs. This work took place through facilitated discussions during open houses, advisory group meetings, stakeholder workshops, and surveys. The key agency directors, Project Team, and the Policy Advisory Group pared down the list of critical issues, as shown on Page 13 of this report.

*2.2 Address Public Comment (Issue Papers and Workplan).* The Project Team reviewed public comments received on the draft issue papers and preliminary workplan and addressed comments through revisions to these documents. As these materials and others continue to evolve, the Project Team plans to bring areas of contention to the Water Resources Commission and the Policy Advisory Group for further discussion and direction.

Phase III: Developing Recommended Actions.

*3.1 Progress Report.* During Phase III, the Oregon Water Resources Department, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Oregon Department of Agriculture are required to provide a progress report to the 76<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly by February 1, 2011.

*3.2 Developing Recommended Actions.* The advisory groups have continued to work on identifying and scoping potential recommended actions that address the critical issues, identifying potential obstacles to these recommended actions, and contributing to the first draft of the Strategy, in anticipation of a public review and comment period scheduled for Fall 2011. The Project Team is taking the lead in articulating the details—the current status of such actions including gaps and obstacles, authorities that state and federal agencies have in this area, and recommended next steps. Recommended actions should contain an implementation and funding plan, timelines, and measurable targets.

Phase IV: Producing Oregon’s First Integrated Water Resources Strategy. Work under Phase IV is aimed at preparing, adopting, and submitting Oregon’s first Integrated Water Resources Strategy during 2012. The Project Team plans to host discussions with the public, stakeholders, and advisory groups, through a number of electronic and face-to-face means, including community meetings.

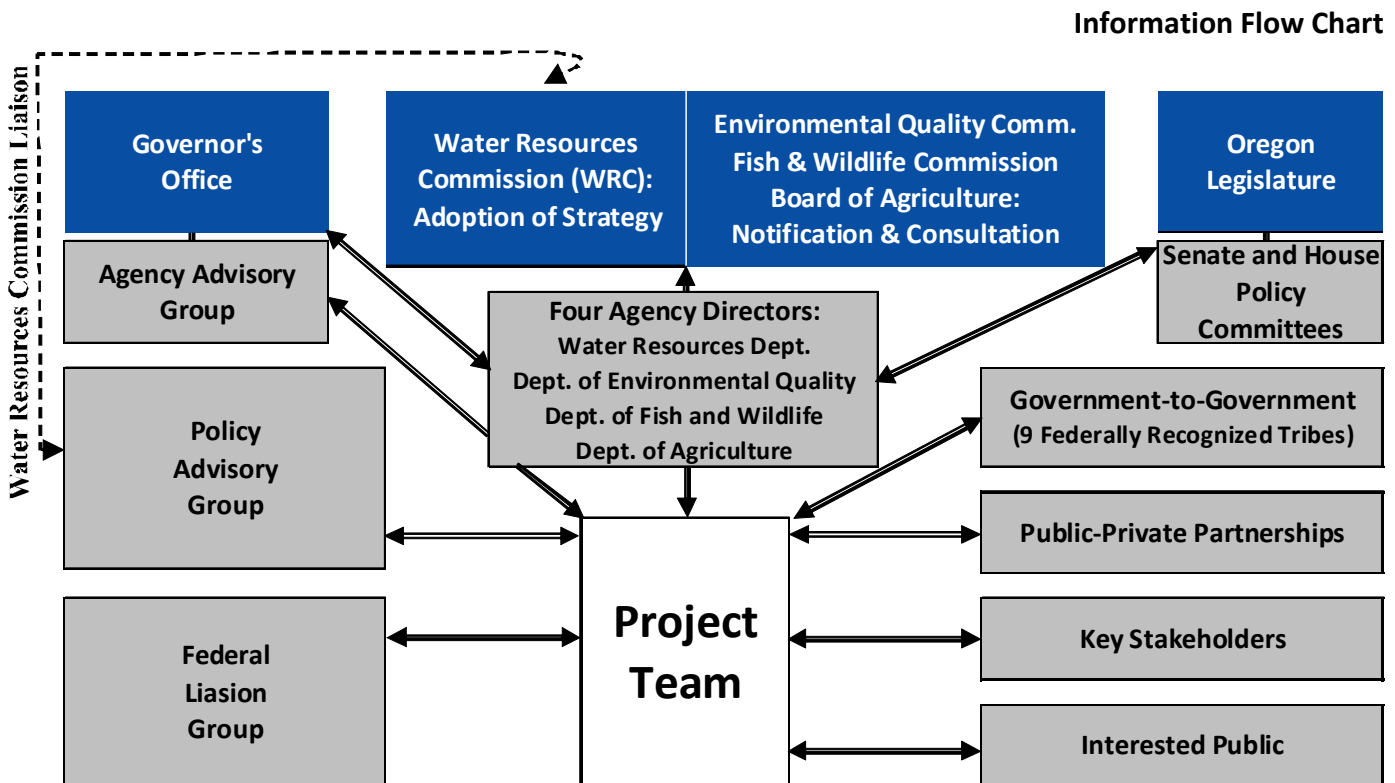
The advisory groups will have an opportunity to review and suggest revisions to the IWRS. In 2012, the Project Team will present the strategy to the Water Resources Commission for notification of other Boards and Commissions. Following review and adoption by the Water Resources Commission, the Strategy will be distributed to the Oregon Legislature prior to the 2013 Legislative Session.

Phase V: Project Review. This is an iterative process and successfully meeting Oregon’s water needs will mean constantly asking “what if” questions and preparing to adapt to changing circumstances and environments. Upon adoption of Oregon’s first Integrated Water Resources Strategy, the Project Team will embark on a process to implement the recommended actions, and to evaluate the process, identifying both the lessons learned and improvements needed for the next iteration. Legislators, agencies, and partners will also have opportunities during this phase to measure the implementation and effectiveness of the recommended actions included in the Strategy.

## Institutional Structure

The Oregon Water Resources Department is developing the Integrated Water Resources Strategy in consultation with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Oregon Department of Agriculture. Tribes, along with public and private sector stakeholders, are an important voice in this process as well, along with other state and federal agencies.

The following chart demonstrates how information flows and decisions are made during the development of the Strategy. The Oregon Water Resources Department has ultimate responsibility for developing and delivering the Strategy. Information passes through the Project Team as part of the IWRS record and for further distribution. Public comments are regularly posted to the project website and, at any time, interested parties can comment either verbally or in writing.



Project Team. The Project Team, led by the Water Resources Department, is managing the development of the Integrated Water Resources Strategy. The team is comprised of senior staff from four natural resources state agencies:

- Brenda Bateman, Project Manager, Water Resources Department
- Karen Tarnow and Christine Svetkovich, Department of Environmental Quality
- Bruce McIntosh and Rick Kepler, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Ray Jaendl and Brent Searle, Department of Agriculture
- Alyssa Mucken, IWRS Policy Coordinator (from the Water Resources Department)
- Ken Stahr, IWRS Science Coordinator (from the Water Resources Department)

The Project Team meets regularly to evaluate progress and assign tasks. These include preparing materials and agendas for advisory group meetings and public meetings. The Project Team has already partnered with stakeholders to host meetings and workshops, and with academic institutions to conduct related research on a variety of fronts. In addition to developing the website, mailing list, briefing materials, and meetings, the Project Team collects and documents recommendations that come from advisory groups, partners, stakeholders, and other interested parties.



Throughout the process, the Project Team has provided project updates to the Governor’s office, Oregon Legislature, advisory groups, stakeholders, partners, and the public, as well as to the four primary Commissions: the Water Resources Commission, Environmental Quality Commission, Fish and Wildlife Commission, and Board of Agriculture.

Governor's Office and Oregon Legislature: Regular reports to these entities provide formal opportunities to update policymakers and receive policy guidance on the Strategy. The Governor’s Office, through its Economic Revitalization Team, has helped facilitate outreach to local governments and Oregon’s economic development community. The Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds Core Team has helped facilitate outreach to federal and state natural resources agencies. Finally, the Environmental Justice Task Force has assisted with outreach and information sharing.

Commissions: House Bill 3369 requires the Water Resources Commission to notify the Environmental Quality Commission, Fish and Wildlife Commission, and Board of Agriculture before adoption of the Integrated Water Resources Strategy, and notes that the Strategy shall take effect upon adoption by the Water Resources Commission. These Boards and Commissions have been engaged since the early stages of the process, conducting regular briefings in which staff and commissioners update other boards and commissions on the Strategy during regularly scheduled public meetings. The Project Team members continue to provide updates on the Strategy to their individual commissions and boards, providing an opportunity for commissioners to ask questions and provide guidance. The boards and commissions continue to welcome input from partners, stakeholders, and the public at any time. Additional state commissions and boards have hosted the Project Team as well, including the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, the Infrastructure Finance Authority, and DHS’ Drinking Water Advisory Committee.

The Water Resources Commission appointed a temporary Planning Committee during the initial stages of the project to help write the original background/issue papers used in this project. The Planning Committee was comprised of Commissioners Mary Meloy (Chair), Jeanne LeJeune, and John Roberts. In addition, the Water Resources Commission Chair named Jeanne LeJeune as the Commission’s liaison to the Policy Advisory Group, a group described in more detail below.

The Policy Advisory Group (PAG) is comprised of 18 citizen members, appointed for their experience in the water arena and their commitment to leadership in this process. Their role is to provide feedback and to make recommendations to the agency Directors. In particular, they are helping to identify and prioritize the “critical issues” and “recommended actions” featured in the IWRS. PAG members are:

- Glenn Barrett, Rancher  
Barrett Livestock, Bonanza, OR
- Michael Campbell, Member  
Stoel Rives LLP Attorneys at Law
- Jay Chamberlin, District Manager  
Owyhee Irrigation District
- John DeVoe, Executive Director  
WaterWatch of Oregon
- Dennis Doherty,  
Umatilla County Commissioner
- Bill Gaffi, General Manager  
Clean Water Services
- Patrick Griffiths, Water Resources  
Coordinator, City of Bend
- Todd Heidgerken, Manager  
Tualatin Valley Water District
- Tod Heisler, Executive Director  
Deschutes River Conservancy
- Teresa Huntsinger, Program Director  
Oregon Environmental Council
- Tracey Liskey, Co-Owner  
Liskey Farms, Klamath Falls, Oregon
- Peggy Lynch, NR Coordinator  
League of Women Voters of Oregon
- Janet Neuman, Water Law Professor  
Lewis & Clark Law School
- Eric Quaempts, NR Director  
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla  
Indian Reservation
- Mike Seppa, Retired Dairy Farmer  
Seppa Dairy Company, Astoria, OR
- Lorna Stickel, WR Planning Manager  
Portland Water Bureau & Regional  
Water Providers Consortium
- Richard Wells, VP & General Manager  
Monrovia Growers – Oregon
- Joe Whitworth, Executive Director  
The Freshwater Trust

The Agency Advisory Group (AAG) is comprised of senior staff from 15 natural resource and economic development state agencies, and the Governor's office. This group develops much of the technical materials, maps, statistics, and analysis used by the Policy Advisory Group and agency directors in the development of the IWRS. AAG members are directors or their designees from the following departments:

- Water Resources Department
- Dept. of Environmental Quality
- Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
- Department of Agriculture
- Business Development Department  
*(Business Oregon and the Infrastructure Finance Authority)*
- Department of Energy
- Dept. of Geology & Mineral Industries
- Dept. of Housing & Community Services
- Dept. of Human Services-Drinking Water
- Dept. of Land Conservation & Develop.
- Department of Forestry
- Parks and Recreation Department
- Department of State Lands
- Department of Transportation
- Watershed Enhancement Board

The Federal Liaison Group includes federal agencies with diverse responsibilities in the area of water supply, water quality, land management, and fish and wildlife in Oregon. These agencies have named liaisons that will provide policy and technical input to the Strategy:

- Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)
- Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)
- National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
- Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- Forest Service (USFS)
- Geological Survey (USGS)

Government-to-Government Relations: The nine federally recognized Tribes of Oregon receive assistance from the Legislative Commission on Indian Services in their partnerships with the State of Oregon. On November 19, 2009, the Legislative Commission hosted a Government-to-Government State-Tribal Water Forum in which eight of the Tribes described their history, perspective, cultural values, and use of water resources. These perspectives were recorded and are included as part of the project archives. One member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation serves on the Policy Advisory Group. In addition, the Tribes were formally invited to participate in the open house events. Many tribes brought water management projects for display and engaged in the discussions. The nine Tribes are:

- Burns Paiute Tribe
- Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians
- Coquille Indian Tribe
- Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
- Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde Community
- Klamath Tribes
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

Key Stakeholders: Key stakeholders include institutions and associations that are helping immensely with outreach efforts. Key stakeholders represent a wide variety of geographies, interests, and number of members. They include agricultural, municipal, environmental, business, local government, and other interests, and typically have members or donors who are interested in water-related issues. The Project Team appreciates the assistance stakeholders are providing, such as serving as a communication link to their members and colleagues. Already, the Project Team has met with many of these stakeholder groups, providing briefings and workshops related to the Strategy.

Interested Public: The Project Team developed a public involvement plan that describes the opportunities for the interested public to gather and receive information. These opportunities range from face-to-face interactions (public meetings) to print media (newspapers, newsletters, and fliers) and electronic communications (the project website, mailing list, and email). The best opportunities for public interaction occurred during the 2010 open house events, surveys, and formal public comment periods.

Public-Private Partnerships. A number of partners have helped advance the work of the Integrated Water Resources Strategy. A few examples are below.

*Academic Studies.* The Political Science Department at Oregon State University, together with Oregon Sea Grant, OSU Extension, and the Institute for Water and Watersheds at OSU, have partnered with the IWRS Project Team to support the Strategy in a number of ways.

For example, Professor Brent Steel, Director of OSU's Political Science Department, typically conducts an annual survey of Oregonians to gauge their knowledge and perspective in different public policy issues. For the 2009-2010 academic year, the survey topic focused on "water resources." Professor Steel and Ph.D. candidates Monica Hubbard and Erika Wolters spearheaded the efforts, surveying Oregonians around the state to assess citizen attitudes and opinions toward water issues in Oregon. The survey methodology closely mirrored recent OSU studies, asking Oregonians where they go for information, how to communicate with them most easily, and how they feel about various water issues. Preliminary survey results are currently available on the IWRS project website.

*Facilitation.* The Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments has provided the facilitation services of its Executive Director, Cynthia Solie, under an intergovernmental agreement. Ms. Solie serves as the facilitator for Policy Advisory Group meetings.

*Process Assistance.* A number of public and private sector experts have provided invaluable pro bono advice with regard to process design and public involvement. They include Bill Ross and Associates, CH2M Hill, the City of Portland's Rivers Office and the Water Bureau, Cogan Owens Cogan, HDR Engineering, Integrated Water Solutions LLC, Oregon State University – Cascades Campus, Portland State University / Oregon Solutions, Southern Oregon University, and University of Oregon's Climate Leadership Initiative.

The Project Team continues to welcome partnerships with other academic, volunteer, and professional organizations to further the work under this Strategy.

## Public Involvement

The public has already provided key input into this process. The Project Team uses a variety of techniques to encourage public participation. These invitations come through partner networks, mailing lists, and the media, including a news editorial by the Chairs of the Water Resources Commission, Environmental Quality Commission, Fish and Wildlife Commission, and Board of Agriculture. Open houses, held during Spring 2010, included one virtual and eleven face-to-face events. The events were held at the following locations:

- Gresham, March 31
- Ontario, April 7
- Umatilla, April 8
- Bandon, April 22
- Tillamook, April 28
- Medford, May 11
- Klamath Falls, May 12
- Redmond, May 13
- Burns, May 25
- Salem, June 8
- Eugene, June 10

The open house events averaged about 75 participants each, and included members of the public (including families), elected and appointed officials, public and private organizations, and water professionals. Commission / Board members and Department staff from the four key agencies presented materials and hosted a “project showcase” that demonstrated local, state, tribal, and federal water management practices already underway in Oregon. A “Kids Activity Center” included water-related word finds and coloring activities for younger participants. A display gallery of 18 mounted maps served as a visual representation of challenges and opportunities for water resources in Oregon today.

Facilitators from all eleven communities volunteered their time and led the open house brainstorming sessions. Dozens of public and private organizations donated materials, displays, facilities, refreshments, and time to ensure the success of these outreach events. During these events, participants were asked to identify the key water issues facing their communities and the solutions they would like to see pursued. The Project Team posed these same questions in more than 30 stakeholder workshops around the state to solicit input. An on-line survey yielded another 80 responses. Through these outreach efforts, the Project Team reached more than 1,000 Oregonians, inviting their input into this process. Briefings and workshops have included:

- Various State & Federal Agencies, Boards, Commissions
- Alliance for Democracy
- American Public Works Association – Oregon Chapter
- American Water Resources Association – Oregon Chapter
- American Water Works Assoc. – Water Resources Comm.
- Association of Oregon County (AOC) Planning Directors
- Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) Annual Summit
- Council of State Governments
- Deschutes Water Alliance
- Environmental / Conservation Groups
- League of Oregon Cities Water Policy Committee
- Legislative Commission on Indian Services
- Lions Convention
- Network of Watershed Councils Annual Gathering
- Oregon Association of Cattlemen Annual Meeting
- Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies
- Oregon Association of Conservation Districts Board
- Oregon Association of Nurseries
- Oregon Business Council Water Committee
- Oregon Interim Legislative Committees
- Oregon Farm Bureau Water Committee
- Oregon Girls’ State
- Oregon Groundwater Association – Annual Meeting
- Oregon League of Women Voters Annual Meeting
- Oregon Planning Institute
- Oregon State Association of RC&D Councils
- Oregon Sustainability Board
- Oregon Water Law Annual Conference
- Oregon Water Resources Congress
- Oregon Water Utilities Council
- Portland BaseCamp 2010: Socially Responsible Investment
- Tillamook Soil & Water Conservation 2009 Annual Meeting
- State-Tribal Water Forum
- Tualatin Riverkeepers and Tualatin R. Watershed Council
- Water for Life Annual Meeting
- Western States Engineers
- Yamhill Soil & Water Conservation District

Additional input opportunities included public comments collected through traditional means and through the email address [waterstrategy@wrd.state.or.us](mailto:waterstrategy@wrd.state.or.us). All of these venues have provided an opportunity to understand and address concerns and questions from the public. At the conclusion of these open houses and workshops, the Project Team received very positive feedback from participants who appreciated the time and energy invested in gathering public input. This input is summarized in a 40-page [Results](#) document, which includes more than 20 categories of suggested public policy solutions is available on the project website.

## Components of the Framework

The focus during the remaining two years is on the development of a statewide framework and recommended actions that help the state better understand and meet its water needs. The draft framework is included on the following pages. This framework will help provide context and guidance for determining which actions to pursue under the Strategy. It contains the following components:

Vision. The first component of the framework is the Water Resources Commission's vision for the overall process. This vision focuses on the approach and process that should be used in order to develop the Strategy, emphasizing the principles of working together, and striving to meet the needs of future generations. Following that is the Policy Advisory Group's vision for the physical water resources of Oregon. This vision is more focused on the health of water resources, looking out 50 years from now.

Goals and Objectives. There are two goals and seven objectives listed in the framework that are derived from the language of House Bill 3369. The goals and objectives help provide the direction needed to better understand and meet Oregon's water needs.

Critical Issues. Several potential issues that could be addressed in the IWRS (first implementation phase 2012 – 2017) are listed below and within the framework. The order and manner in which these issues are displayed indicates neither a priority nor chronological order in which they will be addressed. The issues, as described herein, are in draft form.

- Further Define In-stream Needs / Demands
- Further Define Out-of-Stream Needs / Demands
- Further Understand Limited Water Supplies & Systems
- Improve Water Quality & Quantity Information
- Further Understand our Water Management Institutions
- Water and Energy Nexus
- Water and Land-Use Nexus
- Climate Change
- Infrastructure Challenges
- Population Growth
- Pollutants
- Economic Development
- Institutional Structures & Capacity at All Levels
- Education & Outreach
- Funding
- Regionalization / Basin Efforts
- Water Management Practices
- Ecosystem Health & Public Health
- Natural & Built Storage

Guiding Principles. The guiding principles will be used to craft the recommended actions. The principles serve as a reminder that the recommended actions should ensure accountability and results. They call for adaptive management, learning as we go. They also incorporate principles of balance, collaboration, common sense, equity, innovation, and streamlining. They call for conflict resolution, incentives / voluntary actions, informed decision-making, local capacity-building and integration wherever possible. A companion document will define each of these principles in more detail and serve as a guide throughout the process. These principles were developed during discussions with advisory groups, the Water Resources Commission, stakeholders, and the public.

Recommended Actions. During 2011, the Project Team, with assistance from the advisory groups, will be developing a set of potential recommended actions to address critical issues. Based on input gathered thus far, such actions would presumably focus on addressing data and information gaps, integrating decision-making and planning efforts, supporting basin planning, strengthening water conservation and water management approaches, helping to develop above and below-ground storage systems, improving instream flow and water quality protection, restoration work, and more.

Implementation. Using an iterative process will help us evaluate the effectiveness of the recommended actions noted above. This involves monitoring implementation, resolving conflicts that arise, providing feedback on any successes or shortcomings, and evolving or adapting to new information or resources. As we learn lessons from the first round of implementation, we can adjust the Strategy as needed through formal adoption every five years.

# Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy Framework

## Vision:

**Water Resources Commission:** A statewide integrated water resources strategy will bring various sectors and interests together to work toward the common purpose of maintaining healthy water resources to meet the needs of Oregonians and Oregon’s environment for generations to come.

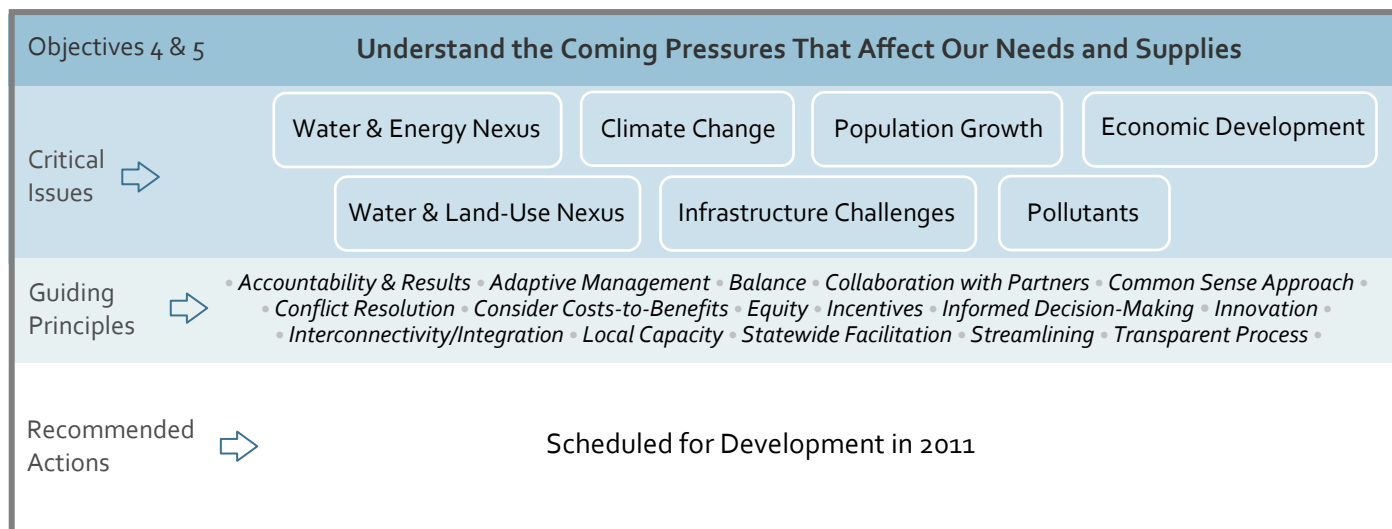
**Policy Advisory Group:** Everywhere in our State, we see healthy waters, able to sustain a healthy economy, environment, and cultures & communities. *Healthy waters...are abundant and clean. A healthy economy...is a diverse and balanced economy, nurturing and employing the State’s natural resources and human capital to meet evolving local and global needs, including a desirable quality of life in urban and rural areas. A healthy environment...includes fully functioning ecosystems, including headwaters, river systems, wetlands, forests, floodplains, estuaries, and aquifers. Healthy cultures and communities... depend on adequate and reliable water supplies to sustain public health, safety, nourishment, recreation, sport, and other quality of life needs.*

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

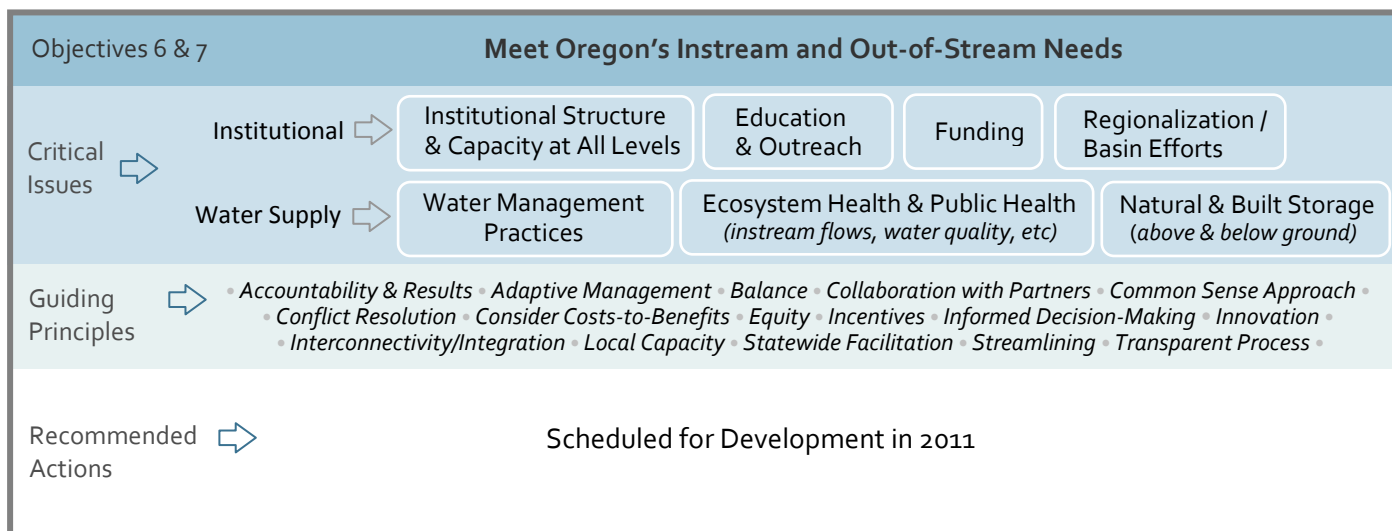
Objectives 1 & 2		Understand Both Instream and Out-of-Stream Needs	
Critical Issues	⇒	Further Define Instream Needs / Demands (i.e., left-in-place water)	Further Define Out-of-Stream Needs / Demands (i.e., diverted water)
Guiding Principles	⇒	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accountability &amp; Results • Adaptive Management • Balance • Collaboration with Partners • Common Sense Approach • Conflict Resolution • Consider Costs-to-Benefits • Equity • Incentives • Informed Decision-Making • Innovation • Interconnectivity/Integration • Local Capacity • Statewide Facilitation • Streamlining • Transparent Process •</li> </ul>	
Recommended Actions	⇒	Scheduled for Development in 2011	

Objective 3		Understand Water Resources Today		
Critical Issues	⇒	Further Understand Limited Water Supplies & Systems (groundwater, surface water and their interaction)	Improve Water Quality & Water Quantity Information	Further Understand Our Water Management Institutions
Guiding Principles	⇒	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accountability &amp; Results • Adaptive Management • Balance • Collaboration with Partners • Common Sense Approach • Conflict Resolution • Consider Costs-to-Benefits • Equity • Incentives • Informed Decision-Making • Innovation • Interconnectivity/Integration • Local Capacity • Statewide Facilitation • Streamlining • Transparent Process •</li> </ul>		
Recommended Actions	⇒	Scheduled for Development in 2011		

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



## Goal 2: Meet Oregon’s Water Resource Needs



### Implementation:

An iterative process will help us evaluate whether the recommended actions meet the goals and objectives defined above. The process will include monitoring the implementation of recommended actions, a commitment to resolving conflicts that arise during the course of implementation, providing feedback on any successes or shortcomings, and evolving or adapting to new information or resources. As we learn lessons from the first round of implementation, we can adjust the Strategy as needed through formal adoption every five years.



## Work Products and Informational Resources

The supporting materials listed below and online describe in more detail why the state is planning for Oregon's water future. The website serves as an avenue for public input, as well as a repository for IWRS documents, such as issue papers (public comments due March 1, 2011); a workplan that includes the project timeline and meeting calendar; public comments received thus far; a map gallery; meeting notes; and video and audio files.

For more information, visit [www.wrd.state.or.us](http://www.wrd.state.or.us) and click the "Project Page" link under "Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy." Joining the [IWRS Listserv](#) is another easy way to stay informed. The Project Team uses this e-mail list periodically to distribute information about upcoming meetings, recent activity, and to solicit public input. Each of the following can be found on the IWRS Project Page.

Key IWRS Publications include:

- [Framework](#) (Feb. 1, 2011)
- [Issue Papers v2](#) (Nov. 18, 2010)
- [Preliminary Workplan](#) (June 3, 2010)
- [Map Gallery](#) (Spring 2010)

Open House Links:

- [Invitation Flyers](#)
- [Introductory Presentation](#)
- [Results](#)
- [Visual Summary \(slide show\)](#)

Briefers:

- [What is the IWRS?](#) (Sept. 23, 2009)
- [Meet the Project Team](#) (Oct. 14, 2009)
- [Meet the Policy Advisory Group](#) (Dec. 4, 2009)
- [Meet the Agency Advisory Group](#) (Jan. 29, 2010)
- [2010 Open Houses](#) (Feb. 12, 2010)
- [OSU Partners](#) (March 30, 2010)

Audio and Video Files:

- [2009 Tribal Summit](#) (Nov. 19, 2009)
- [House Environment and Water Committee Briefing](#) (Feb. 16, 2010)

Project Team Reports to the Policy Advisory Group:

- [Data and Information Gaps](#) (April 14, 2010)
- [Statewide Planning Efforts](#) (July 13, 2010)

Staff Reports to the Water Resources Commission:

- [Nov. 18, 2010](#)
- [Aug. 26, 2010](#)
- [June 03, 2010](#)
- [Feb. 18, 2010](#)
- [Nov. 19, 2009](#)
- [Sep. 10, 2009](#)
- [June 09, 2009](#)
- [Feb. 25, 2009](#)
- [Nov. 20, 2008](#)
- [Aug. 21, 2008](#)
- [June 04, 2008 Planning Minutes](#)
- [May 29, 2008](#)

## Funding

The 75<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly provided funding for two limited-duration positions —a policy coordinator and a science coordinator. Senate Bill 5535 (2009) authorized \$283,000 in lottery-backed bonds for this purpose, and operated in conjunction with Senate Bill 5053 (2009), which allocated the funds to this specific project. The Strategy itself is due to the Legislature on December 31, 2012 and the Governor's Balanced Budget includes continued funding during the 2011-13 biennium to complete this project. Having adequate funding in place is critical for completing this first iteration of Integrated Water Resources Strategy in accordance with the requirements set forth in HB 3369. The Water Resources Department, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Department of Agriculture anticipate completion of Oregon's first Integrated Water Resources Strategy, with continued funding, by the December 31, 2012 statutory deadline.