



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Water Resources Department
725 Summer St NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301
(503) 986-0900
Fax (503) 986-0904
www.Oregon.gov/OWRD

MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Resources Commission

FROM: Crystal Grinnell, Integrated Water Resources Strategy Specialist

SUBJECT: Agenda Item B, March 13, 2025
Water Resources Commission

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES STRATEGY UPDATE

I. Introduction

During this agenda item staff will describe refinement of Draft 2 of the IWRS with the Governor's Office and timeline for public review and comment in the coming months.

II. Integrated Water Resources Strategy Recommended Action

- 13.A – Fund Development and Implementation of Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy

III. Background

The Department has discussed the IWRS at previous Commission meetings since November 2022. Materials from these meetings can be found on our website for the Commission: www.oregon.gov/owrd/aboutus/Commission.

IV. Prioritization Effort with the Governor's Office

The Governor's Natural Resource Office met with leadership from several agencies in 2024 to develop draft state IWRS action priorities for the next five to seven years. The Department is working with the Governor's Office to further refine Draft 2, the state action priorities, and changes to the organizational structure of the IWRS. Draft priorities were included in Attachment 3 of the December 2024 IWRS staff report.

V. Summary of Changes for Draft 2

Draft 1 of the 2024 IWRS was released for public review and comment in March 2024. Draft 2 will be renamed the "2025 IWRS" and address input from public comment, include changes to the IWRS Framework, and add state action priorities identified by multi-agency leadership and the Governor's Office. General changes planned for Draft 2 are summarized, below.

Part 1 of the IWRS will include the Governor's and agency leadership action priorities.

Part 2 will provide narrative descriptions of all Strategy actions.

- Chapters will return to 2017 order, using the four main objectives as titles.
- Example actions will be inserted into narrative text call-out boxes.
- Climate change narrative will be reinstated, along with a description of how resiliency and mitigation actions are distributed throughout the rest of the Strategy.
- The two new actions proposed in Draft 1 will be included in Draft 2.

Appendices

- Action one-pagers will be moved to an appendix.
- Draft 1 narrative regarding tribal, federal, and state government water roles and responsibilities will be moved to an appendix.
- Draft 1 narrative regarding water laws, policies, and regulations will be moved to an appendix.

Framework

Public comment for Draft 1 expressed concern about the departure from the 2017 Framework which used Strategy objectives to organize critical issues and recommended actions. The Department is currently revising the Draft 2 Framework to return to a format more like the 2017 Framework.

VI. Conclusion

The Department anticipates releasing Draft 2 for public review and comment later this spring.

Crystal Grinnell
971-375-5330