



Update on the Willamette Basin WaterSMART Plan of Study

Water Resources Commission Meeting

November 15, 2013

Outline

- **Introduction**
 - **What is WaterSMART and why are we pursuing it?**
- **Background**
- **September Stakeholder Workshop**
- **Next Steps/Conclusion**

Introduction to WaterSMART

What are WaterSMART Basin Studies?

- Bureau of Reclamation cost-share program
- Comprehensive, collaborative approach
- Competitive process
- Flexible to meet needs of individual basin
- Two year completion requirement
- Climate change a major study component

Introduction to WaterSMART

WaterSMART Basin Studies address the following four objectives:

- 1) Develop projections of water supply and demand, including climate change risks, such as changes in snowpack, timing and quantity of runoff, impacts to groundwater, and increase in demand for water.
 - 2) Examine how climate change and other pressures could affect existing infrastructure, operations, and facilities.
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- 3) Develop options for meeting future water needs.
 - 4) Identify trade-offs and analyze possible alternatives.

Background

Refresher on the Willamette Basin Reservoir Study

- **OWRD/USACE effort to manage stored water in the Willamette Project for a full range of beneficial uses**
- **Placed on hold in 2000**
- **Willamette BiOp issued in 2008; renewed interest among agencies & stakeholders; IWRS Recommended Action 10b**
- **Initiated small-scale work in FY13**
- **If USACE receives authority & resources, 3-year study will kick off in October 2014**

Background

- **In March 2013, OWRD submitted a WaterSMART Basin Study proposal**
- **Primary purpose: To Support the Willamette Basin Reservoir Study goals (help fulfill some data needs)**
- **Awarded a “Plan of Study” in May 2013**
- **Held our first workshop with Willamette stakeholders in late September**

Stakeholder Workshop

- **Draft Plan of Study shared with stakeholders**
- **Outlines previous work, available data, and current activities**
- **Willamette Water 2100 participated**
- **HDR Engineering outlined agricultural demand methodology used in the 2008 OWSCI Statewide Assessment**
- **Stakeholders suggested doing a “side-by-side” comparison of the Reservoir Study and WaterSMART requirements**

Conclusion/Next Steps

- **Stakeholders will make recommendation to OWRD on whether or not to pursue a full Basin Study**
 - If “No”...can we fulfill data needs some other way?
- **Basin Study letter of interest likely due January 2014**
- **If selected, submit new proposal & plan of study by March 2014**
- **Awards announced most likely in May**



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Thank You - Any Questions?

Willamette Study Listserv:

http://listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/will_res_study