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# Willamette Basin Review – Reservoir Study

## *Status Update*

Alyssa Mucken, OWRD  
Eric Stricklin, USACE  
Water Resources Commission Meeting  
March 6, 2014



# Outline

- **Background**
- **WaterSMART decision**
- **Draft Surplus Water Letter Report**
- **Next Steps**
- **Seeking Commission's Support**



# Background

- **Started in 1996**
- **Placed on hold (2000)**
- **Willamette Biological Opinion (2008)**
- **Small-scale discussions & white paper (2011)**
- **IWRS adoption (2012)**  
*Action 10B: Improve Access to Built Storage*
- **2013 – Funds available (small-scale pilot)**



# WaterSMART

- **Applied for a BOR Basin Study in March 2013**
- **Awarded a “Plan of Study” in May 2013**
- **Held 2 workshops with stakeholders (Sept. & Dec.)**
- **Decision: NOT pursuing a Basin Study in FY14**
  - **Challenging to meet 2 federal cost-share requirements**
  - **Possibility of duplicating or confusing efforts**
  - **Basin studies are broader than our immediate needs**
- **Use remaining Plan of Study funding to form workgroups**



# Draft Surplus Water Letter Report

- **Examine if stored water within Coast Fork Willamette sub-basin is available for municipal and industrial (M&I) needs for the City of Creswell**
  - **Switch from “reallocation” to “surplus report”**
- **Partners contributed funds and in-kind services**
- **Draft released for public comment in December**

# Draft Surplus Water Letter Report

- Draft Report shows releasing water would not measurably impact reservoir levels or other authorized uses
- Developed a system-wide price for purchasing M&I storage

**Table 7 Summary of Annual Payment for Surplus Water**

Acre-feet of Storage	437
Updated Cost of Storage	\$1,024,765
Repayment Period	30 years
Repayment Rate	3.125%
Annual Payment	\$53,131
FY13 O&M Cost*	\$3,651
Total Annual Payment*	\$56,782
Annual Cost per Acre-foot of Storage*	\$130
Total Cost for 5 year surplus agreement*	\$283,910

**System-wide,  
per Acre-Foot**

\*O&M costs are updated annually; therefore the annual payment will vary slightly each year.



# Draft Surplus Water Letter Report

- **Draft Report efforts inform the larger Reservoir Study, some similarities:**
  - **Defining demands**
  - **Consider alternatives**
  - **Analysis of impacts to other authorized purposes**
  - **Transfer & contracting process**



# Next Steps

- **Final Report submitted to Corps' Division Engineer for review**
- **If approved**
  - **transfer the storage certificate (437 acre-feet)**
  - **develop the contracting process & sign agreement**
  - **secondary application also needed**
- **Begin development of the Project Management Plan for the larger Willamette Basin Reservoir Study (March)**





# Closing & Recommendation

- **Reservoir Study is key to IWRS implementation**
- **Commission has been supportive of efforts to date**
- **Estimated study costs = \$3 million**
- **OWRD responsible for 50%, in-kind services are eligible**
- **Seeking Commission's support to use funds to meet the funding obligation**



# Closing & Recommendation

**The Commission may consider the following options:**

- 1. Support the Department's use of funds to carry out the Willamette Basin Reservoir Study.**
- 2. Direct staff to report back with more information.**

**Recommendation: The Director recommends Option 1**



*Thank You*

Join the Willamette Basin Reservoir Study Email Listserv:  
[http://listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/will\\_res\\_study](http://listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/will_res_study)