

*Encouraging Place-Based Approaches to
Integrated Water Resources Planning*



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OUTLINE

- **Overview of Recommended Action 9.A.**
- **Outreach and Public Input to date**
- **Research from other states**
- **Discussion workshop with Commission**
- **Next Steps**

THE CHARGE TO DEVELOP THE STRATEGY

Oregon's House Bill 3369 (2009)

- Directs WRD to lead efforts to “understand and meet” Oregon’s water needs →
- Partner with water quality, fish & wildlife, agriculture, other agencies, tribes, stakeholders, & public
- Account for coming pressures

instream and out-of-stream
...quality, quantity & ecosystem needs
...today and in the future

7th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY-2009 Regular Session

Enrolled
House Bill 3369

Relating to water supply management; creating new provisions; amending ORS 536.220, 541.700, 541.705, 541.710, 541.720, 541.730, 541.740, 541.765, 541.770, 541.785, 541.830, 541.845 and 541.850; repealing ORS 541.755; appropriating money; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas the western United States is projected to experience substantial population growth this century, including an additional one million people in Oregon before 2030; and

Whereas climate change is expected to alter the timing and form of precipitation in Oregon; and
Whereas surface water is almost completely allocated across Oregon during summer months, ground water levels have declined precipitously in several areas and the hydrological connection between surface water and ground water levels is significant; and

Whereas Oregon needs to develop an integrated statewide water management plan to address existing and likely future in-stream and out-of-stream demands on Oregon's water supplies; and

Whereas having coordinated plans and programs to address in-stream and out-of-stream water needs will make Oregon a more likely recipient of federal investments and give Oregon stronger standing in interstate water disputes; and

Whereas water is a valuable economic commodity; and

Whereas water development projects can be designed to simultaneously benefit commercial development, the natural environment, and the fiscal responsibilities of the state; and

Whereas it is the policy of the Water Resources Department to directly address Oregon's water supply needs and to restore and protect stream flows and watersheds; and

Whereas it is desirable that the Water Resources Department and the Water Resources Commission have greater authority to issue loans and grants to public and private bodies, Indian tribes and others for the purpose of developing projects that will ensure the availability of a sufficient and sustainable water supply to meet Oregon's current and future water needs; and

Whereas loan and grant moneys for developing projects that ensure a sufficient and sustainable water supply must be administered in a prudent and fiscally sound manner and used expeditiously; and

Whereas water development projects that deliver mutual benefits for water users, the environment and the fiscal condition of this state should be funded or financed with public dollars; and

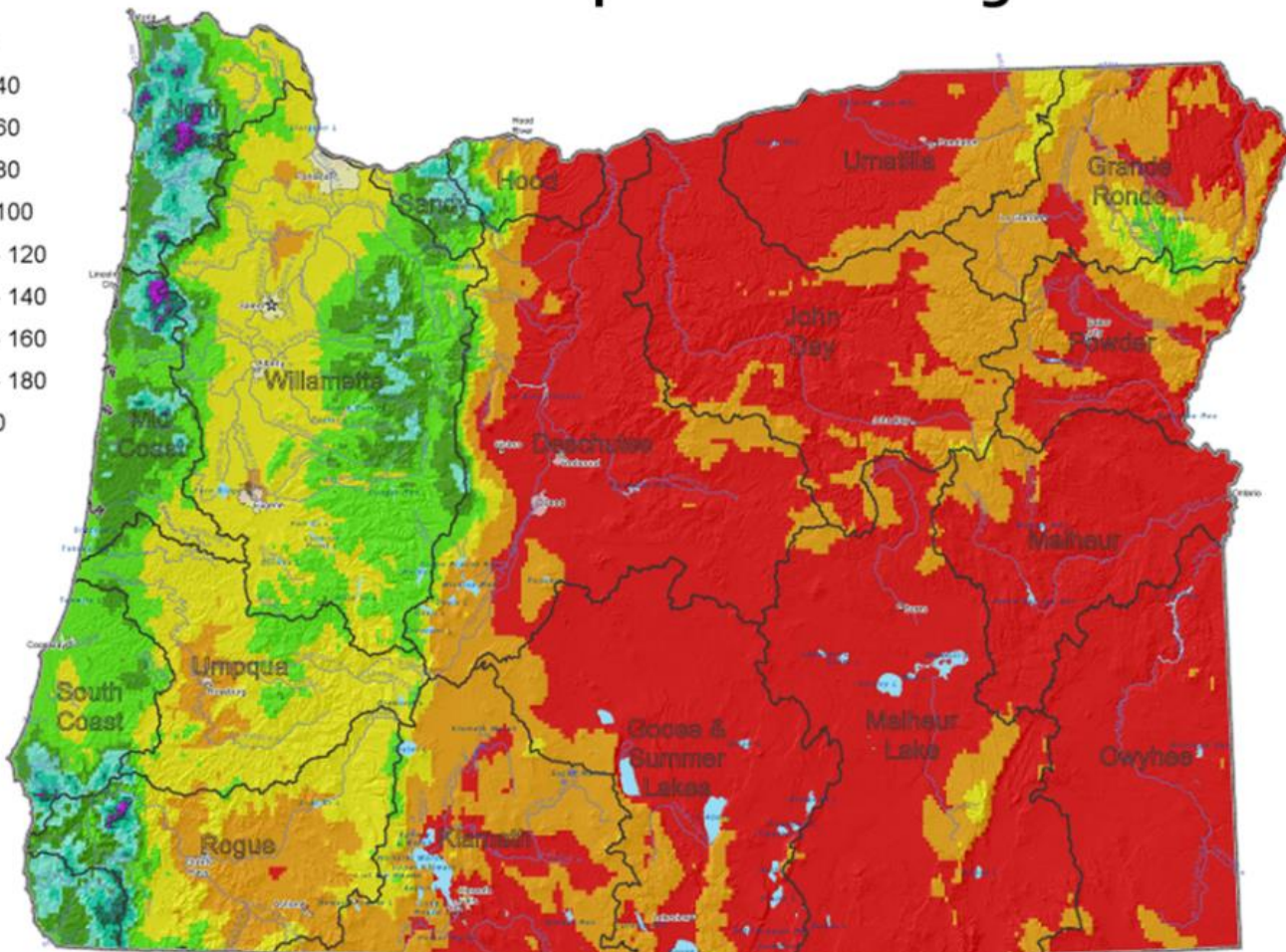
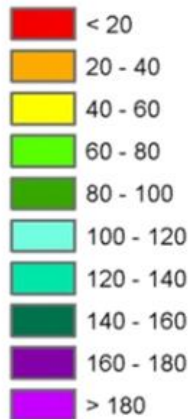
Whereas all water within Oregon belongs to the public pursuant to law; now, therefore,

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

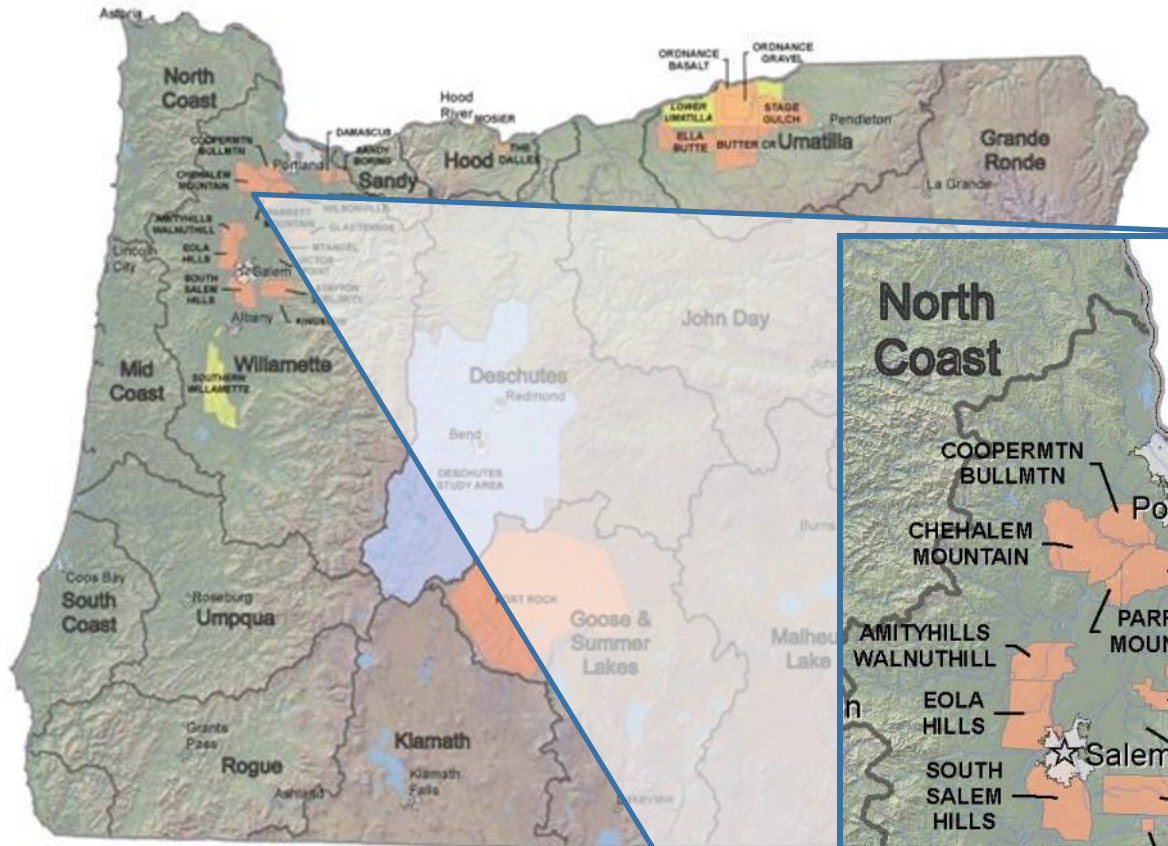
ADDING

WATER ISSUES WILL VARY ACROSS THE STATE

Mean Annual Precipitation in Oregon

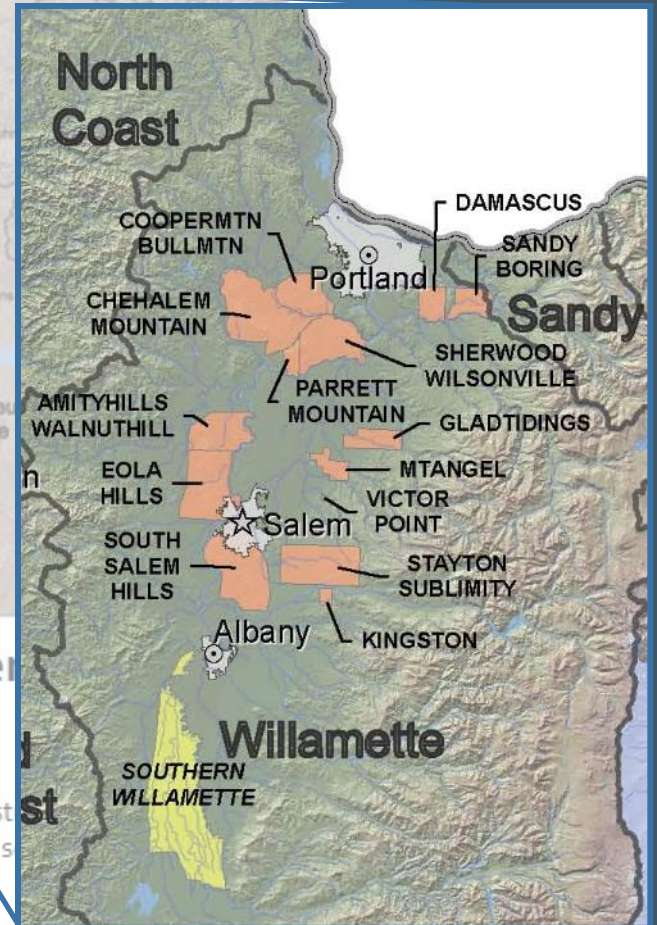


GROUNDWATER ISSUES: QUALITY & QUANTITY



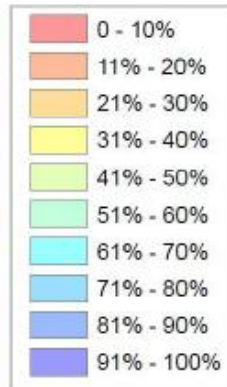
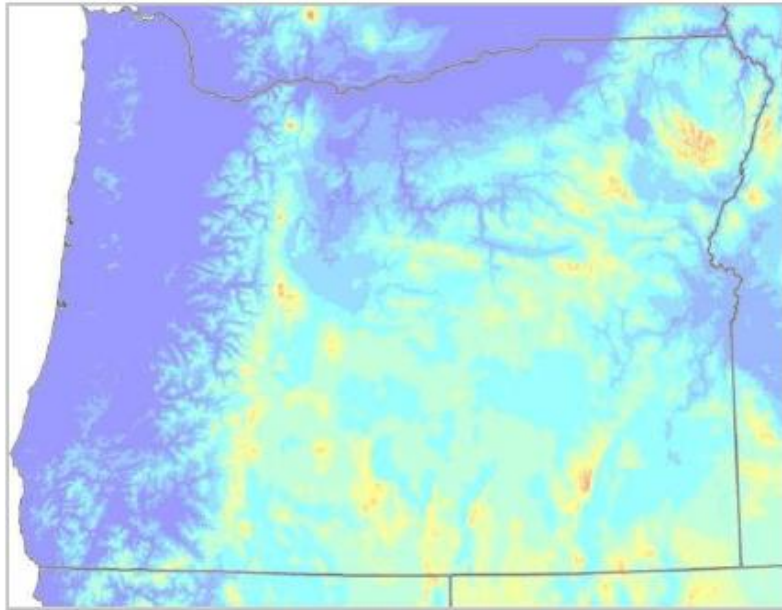
**Areas with Known Groundwater
(Quality & Quantity)**

- DEQ GW Management Area
- OWRD GW Restoration Area
- WRD/USGS Deschutes Study Area
- OWRD Administrative Basin



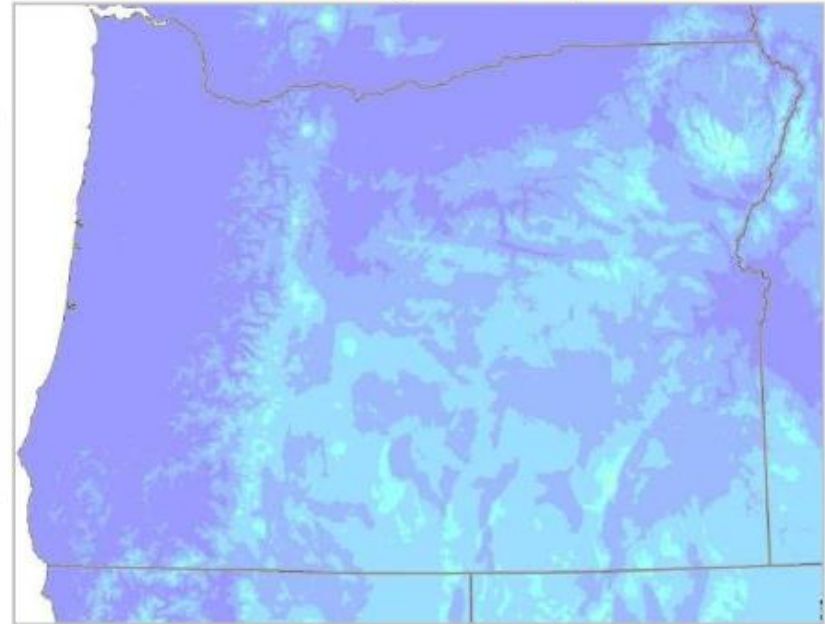
LOSS OF SNOWPACK

Current Precipitation Conditions



Red, yellow, and orange hues represent areas where a large percentage of precipitation falls as snow.

Future Scenario (3.0°C Temp Increase)



Snow-dominant areas largely disappear with a rise in air temperature.

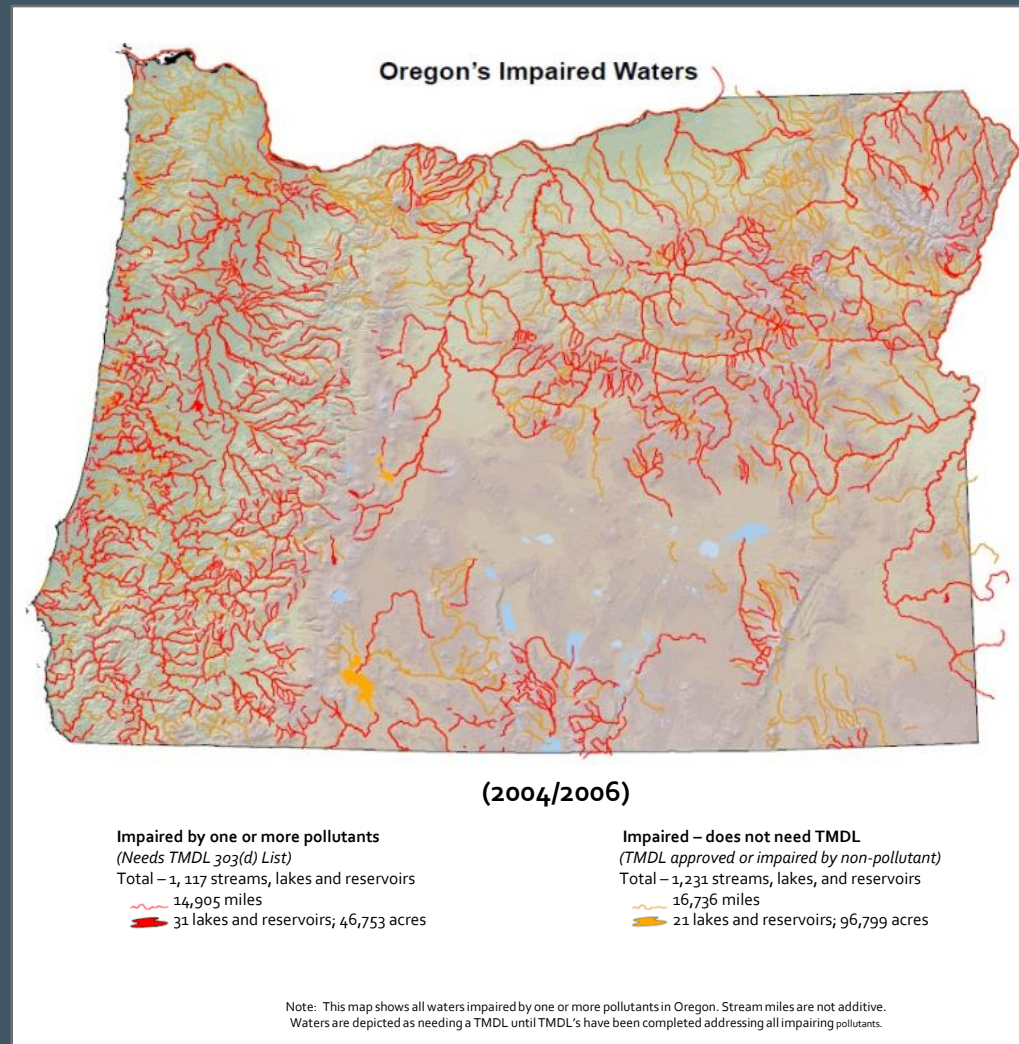
QUALITY: SURFACE WATER

- More than 1,860 water bodies are impaired and not meeting water quality standards

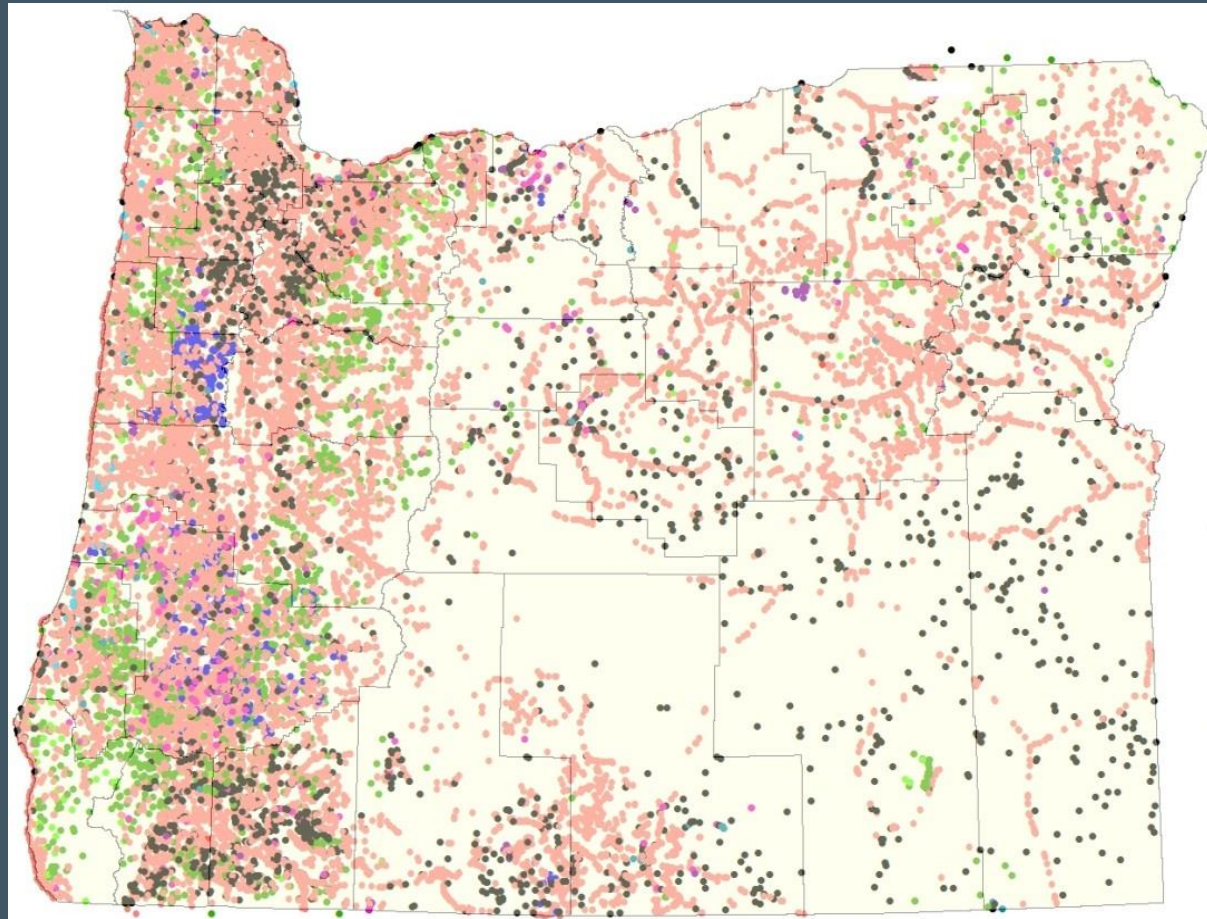
- More than 30 lakes and reservoirs

- About 22,000 stream miles are impaired

- *Temperature*
- *Sedimentation*
- *Nutrients*
- *Dissolved Oxygen*
- *Habitat Alteration*



ACCESS / ECOLOGICAL ISSUES



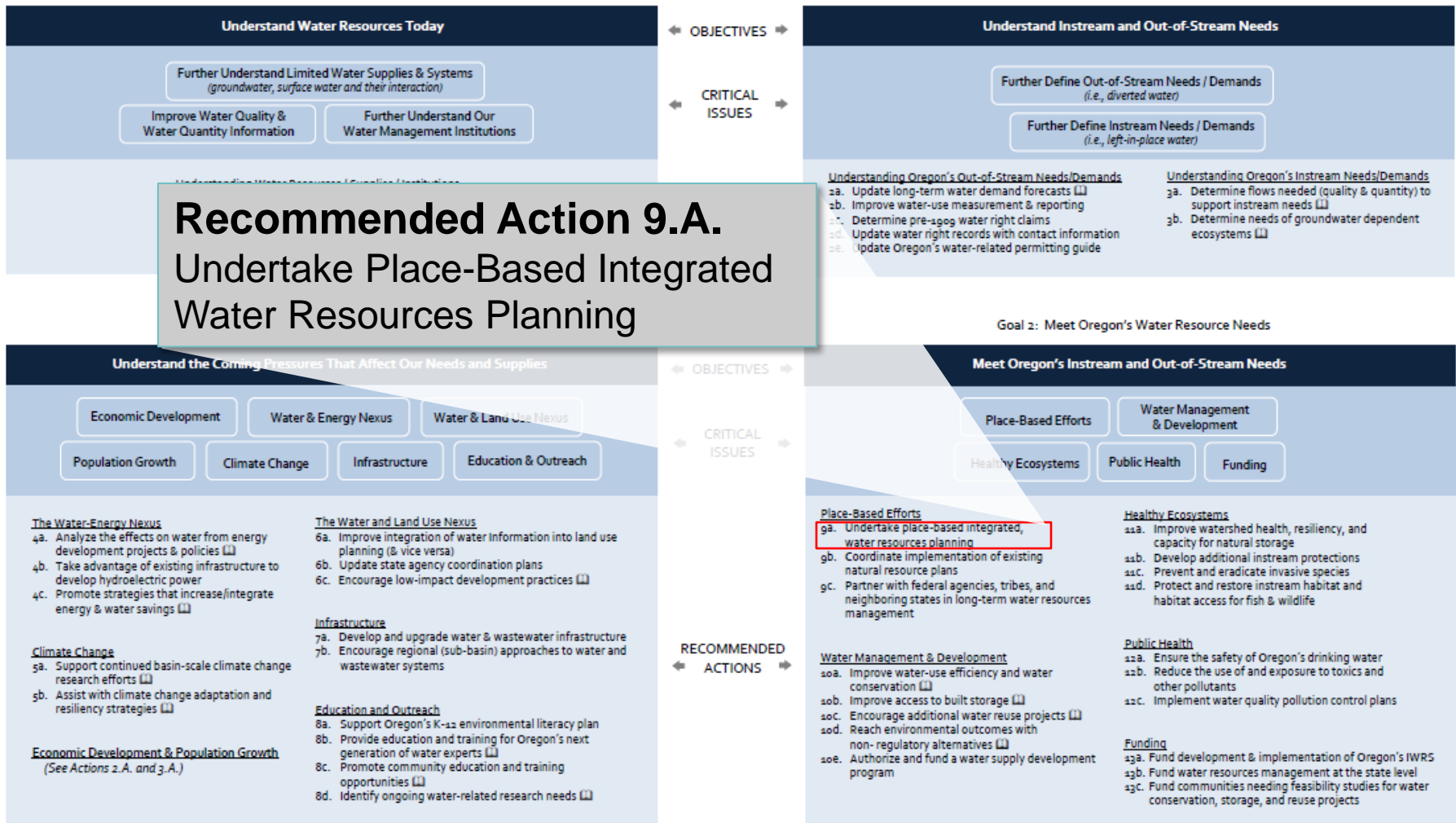
Oregon Fish Passage Barrier Dataset

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| • Bridge | • Natural waterfall |
| • Cascade | • Other known barrier |
| • Culvert | • Tide gate |
| • Dam | • Unknown |
| • Ford | • Weir/still |

IWRS FRAMEWORK

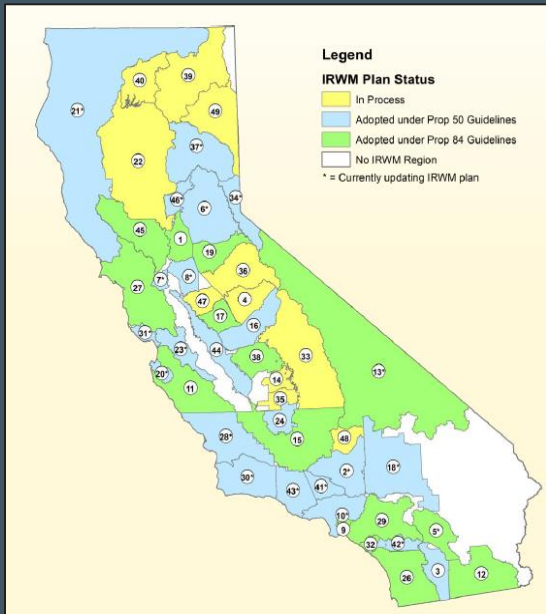
Goal 1: Improve Our Understanding of Oregon's Water Resources

Goal 1 (continued)

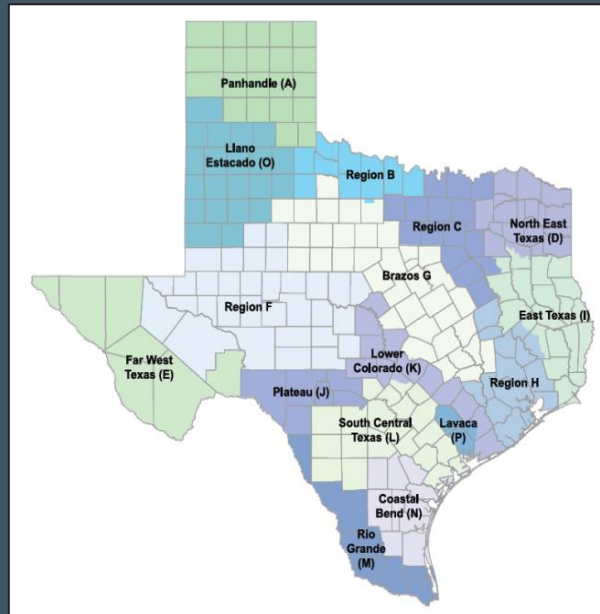


WHAT ARE OTHER STATES DOING?

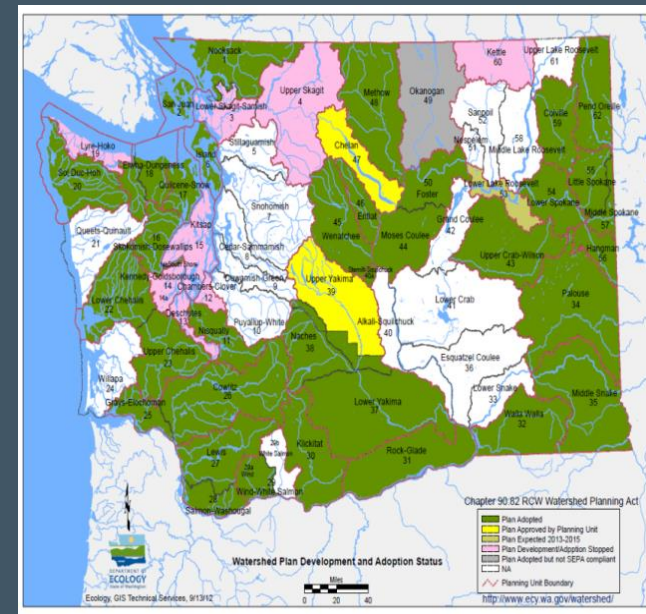
Developed a Discussion Paper (Attachment 1)



California IRWM



Texas Regional Planning



Washington Watershed Planning

WHAT ARE THE PROCESS & PLANNING REQUIREMENTS?

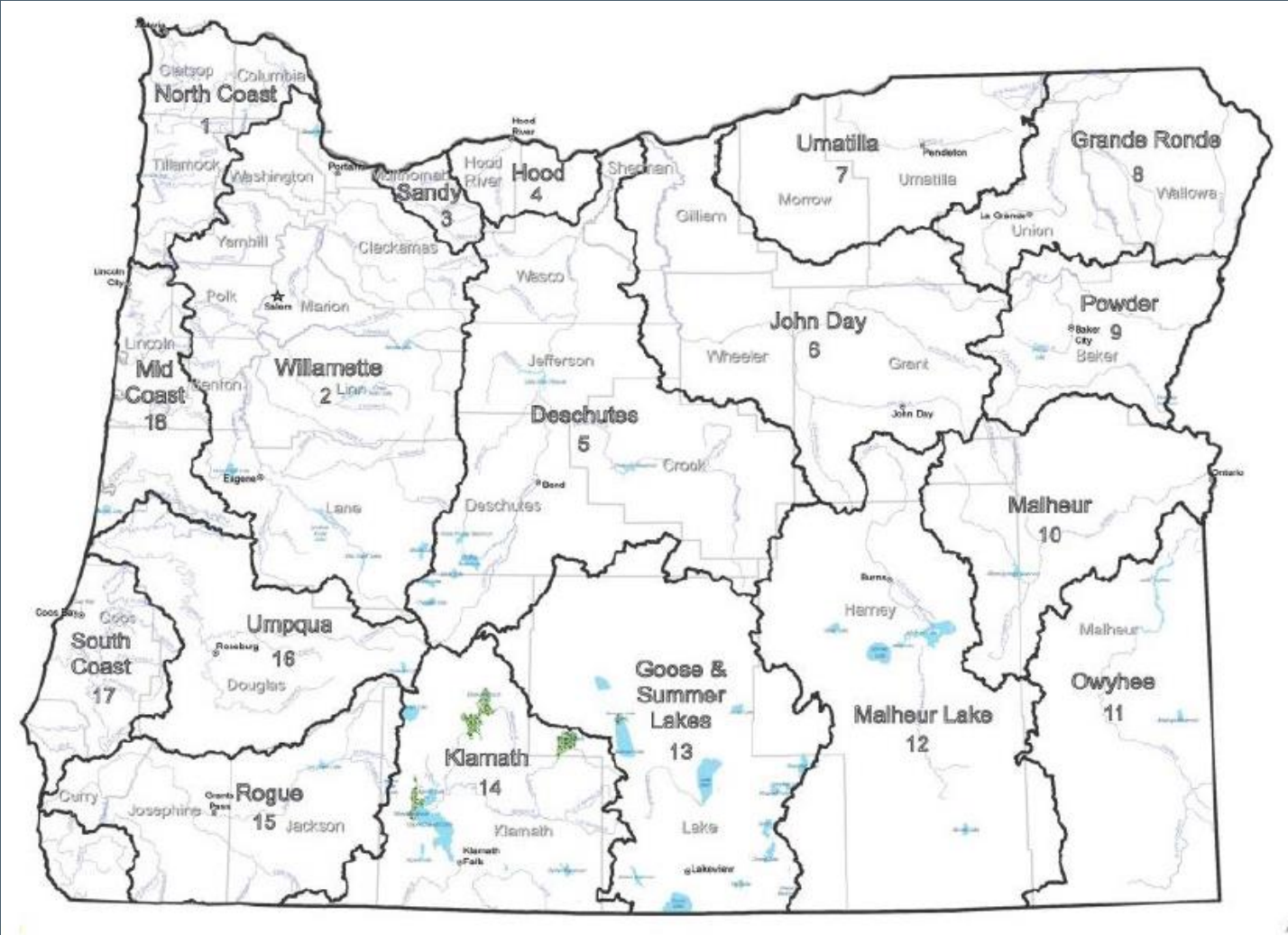
- **Many differences and similarities, of course**
- **Focus of Discussion Paper & Questions**
 1. **Establishing Planning Boundaries**
 2. **Governance Agreements & Structure**
 3. **Stakeholder & Public Involvement**
 4. **Planning Content Requirements**
 5. **Instream Needs**
 6. **Water Quality Needs**
 7. **Integration of Other Planning Efforts**
 8. **Adoption of Plans**
 9. **State Level Review Process**
 10. **State Agency Roles**
 11. **Funding for Planning & Projects**

SCHEDULE OF BRIEFINGS & WORKSHOPS

- Oregon DEQ assisting
- Regional Solutions participating
- Workshops in Deschutes, Umatilla, and Rogue Basins
- Multiple workshops for some groups, by request

March Events		
March 5	OSU Water Conference (workshop)	Silverton
March 10	Assoc. of Oregon Counties' Water Policy Committee (workshop #1)	Salem
March 14	Groundwater Advisory Committee (briefing)	Salem
March 20	State-Tribal Natural Resources Cluster Group (presentation)	Salem
March 27	Oregon Water Utilities Council (workshop)	Salem
April Events		
April 14	Assoc. of Oregon Counties' Water Policy Committee (workshop #2)	Salem
April 18	Conservation Interests (workshop)	Portland
May Events		
May 7	Oregon Assoc. of Clean Water Agencies (presentation)	Salem
May 12	Assoc. of Oregon Counties' Water Policy Committee (workshop #3)	Salem
May 13	League of Oregon Cities' Water Policy Committee (workshop)	Salem
May 16	WISE Project Tour (presentation)	Medford
May 19	Yamhill County Water Task Force (workshop)	Newberg
May 20	IWRS Agency Advisory Group (workshop)	Salem
May 21	DEQ Permitting Section	Portland
May 22	AWWA Water Resources Committee (webinar)	Salem
May 22	Oregon Water Utilities Council (workshop #2)	Salem
May 29	Water Resources Commission (workshop)	Salem
June Events		
June 2	Rogue Valley Council of Governments (workshop)	Central Point
June 3	Agricultural Interests (workshop)	Wilsonville
June 3	OWRD Technical Services Division (workshop)	Salem
June 4	Tualatin River Basin Watershed Council (workshop)	Hillsboro
June 6	OWRD Region Managers (workshop)	Salem
June 10	Assoc. of Oregon Counties Spring Conference (presentation)	Hood River
June 12	OWRD Water Right Services Division (workshop)	Salem
June 16	Deschutes Water Alliance & Basin Study Workgroup (workshop)	Bend
June 18	Regional Water Providers Consortium Technical Committee (workshop)	Portland
June 19	Northeast Oregon Water Association (workshop)	Boardman
June 20	IWRS Federal Liaison Group (workshop)	Portland

OREGON'S HISTORY WITH BASIN-LEVEL PLANNING



WHAT IS A PLACE-BASED APPROACH?

Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Planning

A collaborative process that **brings together various sectors and community interests** to work toward the common purpose of maintaining healthy water resources to meet the needs of Oregonians and the environment.

The plan itself should serve as a **blueprint for meeting both instream and out-of-stream needs**, taking into account water quantity, water quality, and ecosystem needs.

Meeting water needs should be considered **within the context of specific watersheds**, accounting for the hydrological, geological, biological, climatic, socio-economic, cultural, legal, and political conditions of a community.

OUR COMMITMENTS THUS FAR

Oregon's Place-Based IWRM Plans should:

- Recognize the public interest in water
- Maintain state authorities and responsibilities for management of water resources; plans must comply with existing state laws and requirements
- Include a meaningful process for public involvement, with public meetings
- Include balanced representation of all interests
- Be integrated, addressing instream and out-of-stream needs, including water quantity, water quality, and ecosystem needs
- Account for groundwater and surface water (e.g., interaction)
- Delineate and describe local population centers, key industries, and listed fish species, among many other factors that influence the use and management of water

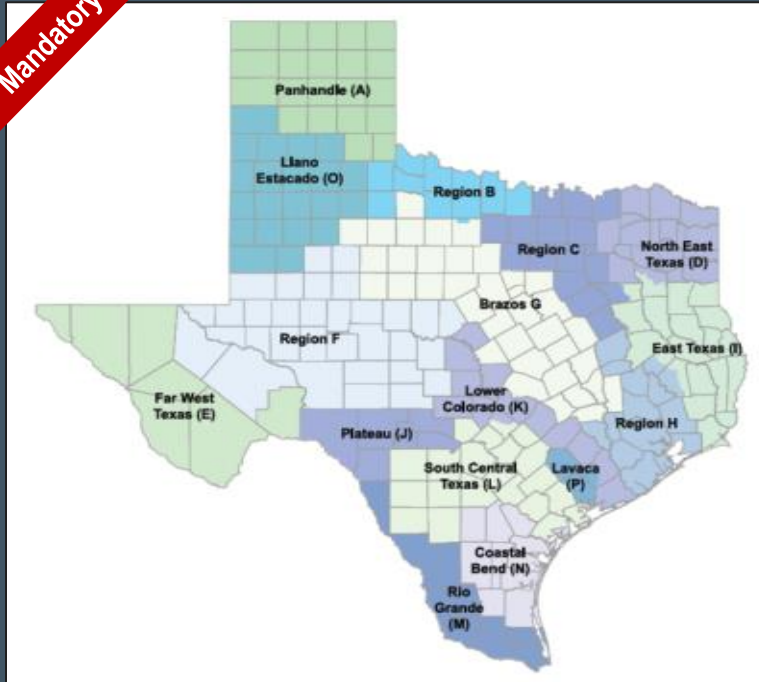
SETTING THE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES: CALIFORNIA



- Delineate own boundaries
- No size criteria
- Region/group formation must be “accepted” by state to be eligible for grant funding
- 48 groups w/ 37 adopted plans

SETTING THE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES: TEXAS

Mandatory



- 16 regions delineated by the Texas Water Development Board, considering:
 - River basin, aquifer boundaries
 - Development patterns
 - Existing planning areas
 - Political sub-divisions
- Boundaries can be reviewed/updated every 5 years

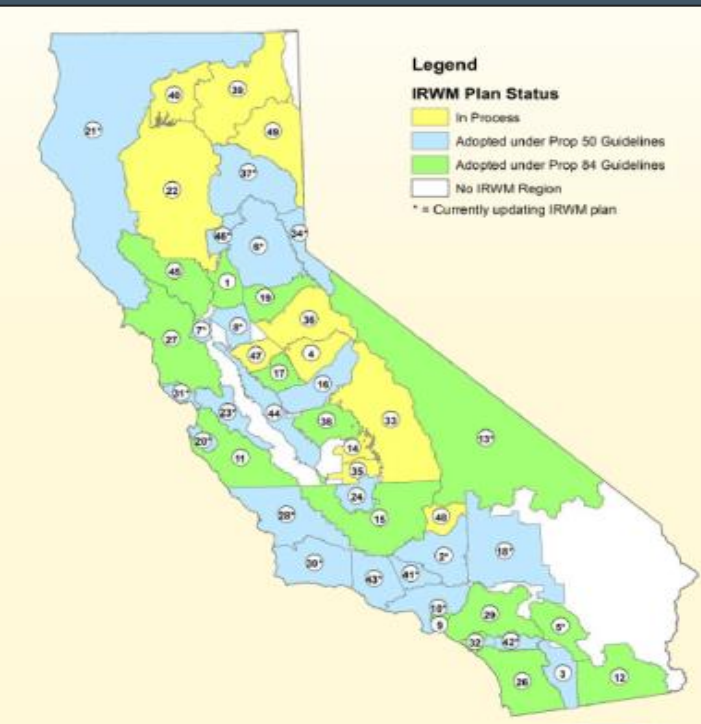
SETTING THE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES: WASHINGTON



- 62 WRIA's formalized in 1971, watershed based
- Developed jointly by natural resource state agencies
- Updated in 1998 & 2000
- Planning units may constitute 1 or more WRIA's
- 36 planning units today

WHO IS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE?

California



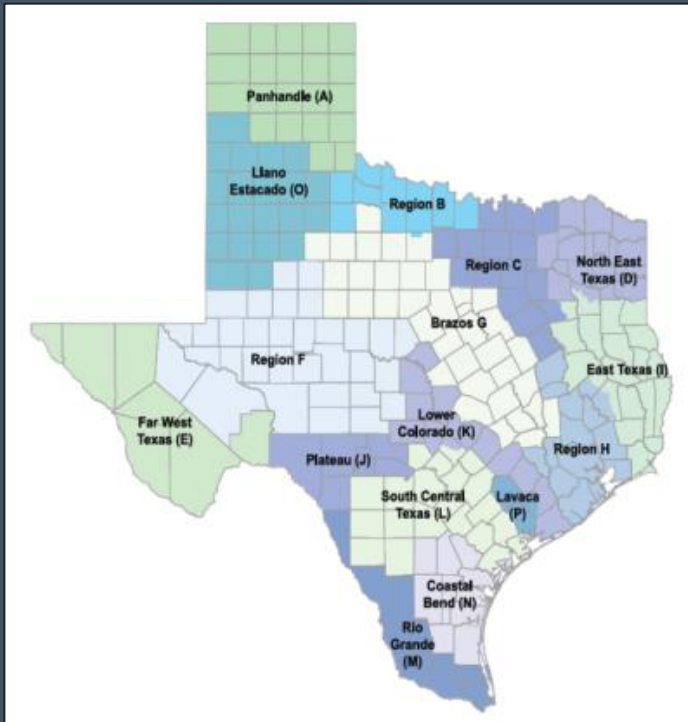
- Must include 3 or more local agencies
- 2 must have water management authority
- Local governing bodies must sign a written agreement

STATE ROLE:

- State agencies offer technical assistance, not members of planning groups; hands-off
- Beginning “plan review process”

WHO IS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE?

Texas



- 12 interest groups must be represented, specified in Texas Administrative Code
- Must delegate a political sub-division to administer planning process

STATE ROLE:

- 3 state agencies act as ex-officio members
- Plans reviewed/adopted by Texas Water Development Board

WHO IS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE?

Washington

- First move made by “Initiating Governments,” defined as:
 - All counties
 - Largest city or town
 - Largest water supplier
 - Tribes must be invited

STATE ROLE:

- Dept. of Ecology sits at the table, no veto power
- Review plans, send approval letters



FUNDING FOR PLANS & PROJECTS

California

- Big grant incentives
- Competitive funding

Texas

- Planning funds distributed, based on size
- Project funds are primarily loans

Washington

- Phased funding approach
 - Organizing
 - Assessments
 - Writing the plan
 - Implementation

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1: The Value of Place-Based Planning

- What can place-based planning accomplish in Oregon that cannot already be accomplished today?

2: Setting Boundaries

- How prescriptive should the state of Oregon be in organizing the borders and composition of groups?
- Should the entire state be partitioned into state-defined regions, or should Oregon allow self-selection, similar to California?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CONT.)

3 & 11: Role of Local Partners & State Agencies

- Who should act as the convenor?
- What role should state agencies play?

12: Funding of Plans & Associated Projects

- What type of funding would be needed?
- Should a properly formed planning unit and plan be a pre-requisite for state funding of water resources projects?

NEXT STEPS

- Review & compile public comments & workshop results
- Share common themes with Commission during the Fall
- Revise & expand the draft guidelines
- Currently developing a budget proposal for 2015-17