Water Resources Commission Meeting August 22, 2014

### **Developing Guidelines & Tools for Place-Based IWRS** Update on Workshop Results & Public Comment



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# Outline











- Overview of workshops
- Public comments received
- Common themes
- Next Steps

# Workshop Hosts: Summer & Spring 2014











- Association of Oregon Counties' Water Policy Committee
- Deschutes Water Alliance & Deschutes Basin Study Workgroup
- IWRS Agency Advisory Group
- IWRS Federal Liaison Advisory Group
- League of Oregon Cities' Water Policy Committee
- Northeast Oregon Water Association
- Oregon Association of Nurseries
- Oregon Cattleman's Association
- Oregon Environmental Council
- Oregon State University Water Summit
- Oregon Water Resources Dept. Field Services
- Oregon Water Resources Dept. Technical Services
- Oregon Water Resources Dept. Water Rights Services
- Oregon Water Resources Commission
- Oregon Water Utilities Council
- Regional Water Providers Consortium Technical Committee
- Rogue Valley Council of Governments
- Tualatin River Basin Watershed Council
- Yamhill County Water Task Force

# **Main Questions Posed During Workshops**









2) What should the guidelines specify for stakeholder and public involvement?



3) What is the role of state agencies in a place-based planning process?



4) What type of technical or financial resources would be needed?

#### "What We Heard Document" (Attachment 1)

- Combines workshops, public comment, other agency input
- Anonymous
- Some comments are contradictory

#### Public Comment (Attachment 2)

- Comment period ran through June 30
- 7 individuals & 12 entities; comments reproduced in total
- Generally supportive, some cautionary

### **Common Themes:**

- Geographic Boundaries
  - Use existing, where possible
  - If groups to allowed to select scale, require formal approval
  - Ensure full coverage statewide
- Governance, Stakeholder, and Public Involvement
  - Inclusive; Balance of interests
  - Utilize local organizations (e.g., watershed councils)

### Common Themes (cont.):

- Voluntary vs. Mandatory
  - This is a voluntary effort at local level
  - Will not jeopardize existing water rights
  - Sorely needed forum or mechanism for resolving water resources issues
- Changing Existing Basin Programs
  - Shouldn't focus on changing or updating
  - The Plan cannot change existing rules or state authorities, but <u>can</u> make recommendations

#### Common Themes (cont.):

- Role of State Agencies
  - State agencies should participate
  - Some suggested providing technical assistance only
  - Some suggested the state should play a strong leadership role
- Funding
  - Encourage self-funding mechanism; cost-share
  - Utilize a step-wise funding approach
  - Allow small projects to be bundled for funding

# **Closing: Next Steps**







Vet and review with Agency Advisory Group and Federal Liaison Group

Vet and review with IWRS Project Team

**Currently revising the Guidelines** 



Present revised guidelines to Commission this Fall

With funding, pilot guidelines and process beginning in 2015. Take additional input from stakeholders and the public.