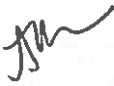




**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Water Resources Commission

**FROM:** Alyssa Mucken, IWRS Coordinator 

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item A, February 25, 2016  
Water Resources Commission Meeting

**2017 Update to Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy**

**I. Introduction**

During this agenda item, staff will update the Commission on the Development Plan for the 2017 Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS), laying out the process and timeline for outreach and other activities. Refer to Attachment 1 for a copy of the 2017 Development Plan.

During a recent meeting, the Commission expressed an interest in continuing to evaluate progress made under the 2012 Integrated Water Resources Strategy. During this agenda item, staff will share a draft document for reporting progress. Refer to Attachment 2 for a draft progress report.

**II. 2017 Development Plan**

Following the Commission's input during the November 2015 meeting, Department staff sketched out a Development Plan for the 2017 IWRS. The plan lays out a calendar for public involvement, stakeholder outreach, advisory group meetings, open houses, regular newsletters, tasks, and opportunities to comment. Also included is a description of the statutory framework and associated requirements for revisions and other updates to the IWRS.

The Project Team and Advisory Groups

In early February, the Department re-convened the project team agencies to begin discussions regarding the 2017 update. Project team agencies include the Water Resources Department, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Department of Agriculture. Project team staff will assist in the development of the 2017 IWRS by helping with 2016 open houses, providing updates on the progress made under the 2012 IWRS, contributing technical content for the 2017 IWRS, and noting where more emphasis is needed with regard to water quality, ecosystem needs, and agricultural issues.

The other state agencies with economic development and natural resource responsibilities will continue to serve as part of the Agency Advisory Group (AAG). This group has continued to be involved with the IWRS, contributing to the place-based planning guidelines, serving as technical reviewers of grant applications, helping with the development of the State's permitting guide, and several other activities.

Federal agencies also have the opportunity to provide input, as part of the Federal Liaison Group. With an emphasis on building drought resiliency for this next iteration, federal agency coordination will be important for sorting out the funding, technical, and early warning tools that are needed in Oregon.

#### The Policy Advisory Group

The Director's Office has developed a list of citizens to serve on a Policy Advisory Group (PAG). Staff sought suggestions from stakeholder organizations, the IWRS Project Team, and the Water Resources Commission subcommittee. Similar to the 2009-12 PAG, group members are asked to represent themselves, not a specific entity or organization. Members were selected based on the following attributes: leadership in the community, water-related expertise, and a personal commitment to help the state continue to understand and meet its water needs. This new PAG provides an opportunity to expand the conversation and garner diverse and fresh perspectives, which will ultimately bring renewed interest to the IWRS.

The Department is also exploring opportunities to engage those stakeholders that have been traditionally involved in our day-to-day activities.

The PAG will focus its attention on developing and vetting new recommended actions relating to drought; they will not focus on the text or technical background. For the 2017 IWRS, the PAG will rely on the existing guiding principles, goals, objectives, and critical issues developed previously. In regards to the key topic areas, preparing for extreme events (such as drought, floods, and earthquakes) and adapting to climate change are important issues facing Oregon that should be better reflected in the next iteration of the IWRS. This summer, Governor Kate Brown directed the Department and its partner agencies to further address climate-related risks and to build drought resiliency into the 2017 Integrated Water Resources Strategy.

Four PAG meetings are scheduled for 2016 and will be open to the public. Meetings will be single day sessions to accommodate travel needs and will be held at the Department's main office in Salem. The first meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 30. Subsequent meetings are planned for June, September, and late November.

#### Open House Events

The Project Team has a lot of information to share with the public, including progress on the 2012 IWRS. The Project Team also wants to hear from Oregon communities regarding water resource challenges, needs, and opportunities.

The Project Team has taken suggestions from partners and the Commission's subcommittee to develop a list of dates and locations for its Spring 2016 Open Houses.

As in 2010, the Project Team will design these events to cater to both the working professional, as well as young families and retirees.

### **III. IWRS Progress Report**

In March 2015, the IWRS Project Team shared its first progress report, a "roadmap to implementation," with the Water Resources Commission. This progress report provided a comprehensive summary of implementation activities under each recommended action. The Commission asked staff to develop a condensed version of this information.

Department staff have developed an "at-a-glance" implementation document that uses a five-point bar scale to help illustrate progress made under Oregon's 2012 Integrated Water Resources Strategy. Actions were evaluated against the Department's 2012-2017 implementation workplan.

This new format condenses the March 2015 progress report into a short summary tool. As we gather more implementation updates from our sister agencies, stakeholders, and other public and private organizations, the Department will continue to evaluate and revise future iterations of this progress report.

### **IV. Conclusion**

The Department will continue to update the IWRS website with project information and offer ways for the public and stakeholders to get involved.

Staff will also plan to present and share information with the Commission during regularly scheduled meetings and will seek guidance and input from subcommittee members, as needed.

Attachment 1: 2016-17 Development Plan  
Attachment 2: Draft "At-a-Glance" Progress Report

Alyssa Mucken  
503-986-0911



# Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy 2017 Development Plan (Working Draft)

February 25, 2016

## Contents

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### I. Background - Statutory Foundation & Legislative Direction

During 2009, the 75th Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 3369 directing the Water Resources Department to develop a state-wide, integrated water resources strategy to help Oregon meet its future water needs in terms of water quantity, water quality, and ecosystem functions. This statutory foundation is codified in Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 536.220, as shown in section VIII of this document.

ORS 536.220(2), calls for the state to “formulate a coordinated, integrated state water resources policy and provide means for its enforcement, that plans and programs for the development and enlargement of the water resources of this state be devised and promoted and that other activities designed to encourage, promote and secure the maximum beneficial use and control of such water resources and the development of additional water supplies be carried out by a single state agency...”

The statute further clarifies these mandates by stating that the Water Resources Department “shall design the strategy to meet Oregon’s in-stream and out-of-stream water needs.”

The law also directs the Water Resources Department to work in close cooperation with the Department of Environmental Quality and Department of Fish and Wildlife, to develop the

Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS) and to develop data on an ongoing basis to forecast these needs. The Department of Agriculture is also listed as a key agency, responsible for reporting progress and included in the list of consulting entities who shall receive notice prior to adoption of the IWRS.

The Water Resources Commission has responsibility for formal adoption of the Strategy. The legislation requires the Strategy to include objectives as well as actions designed to meet these objectives under the strategy. It also requires: a description of relevant factors such as population growth and land-use change; plans and recommendations related to the challenges presented by climate change; provisions to ensure communications and partnerships with key stakeholders; a description of functions and roles to be played by other agencies; and finally, public policy options and recommendations.

## II. Oregon's 2012 Integrated Water Resources Strategy

To guide development and implementation, the Water Resources Commission developed the following vision statement early on in the process:

*A statewide integrated water resources strategy will bring various sectors and interests together to work toward the common purpose of maintaining healthy water resources to meet the needs of Oregonians and Oregon's environment for generations to come.*

Following a 3-year public process that involved several advisory groups, the Water Resources Department presented the state's first integrated water resources strategy to the Water Resources Commission for adoption. The Water Resources Commission adopted the IWRS on August 2, 2012, providing a blueprint for better understanding and meeting Oregon's water quantity, water quality, and ecosystem needs now and into the future.

With the Commission's adoption, agencies were set on an implementation path. A 2012-17 workplan was developed to guide implementation priorities.

The goals and objectives of the 2012 IWRS largely reflect the language contained in ORS 536.220. The Department's advisory groups, particularly the Policy Advisory Group, helped to further articulate the goals, objectives, and guiding principles of the Strategy. The Department developed a [framework](#) document that outlines the essential elements of the 2012 IWRS. In this document, you will find the following goals and objectives supported by more than forty recommended actions that aim to address the most critical water-related challenges facing the state.

- Goal 1: Improve our understanding of Oregon's water resources
  - Objective 1: Understand water resources today
  - Objective 2: Understand instream and out-of-stream needs
  - Objective 3: Understand the coming pressures that might affect our needs and supplies
  
- Goal 2: Meet Oregon's water resources needs
  - Objective 4: Meet Oregon's instream and out-of-stream needs

During the first round of implementation (2012-2017), the State has followed a workplan that prioritized recommendations calling for improved surface water and groundwater data, local water planning, water supply development, instream protections, and funding options to help local communities and state agencies meet their water-related responsibilities. Department staff have regularly updated the Commission on implementation activities. In March 2015, the Project Team agencies brought forth a “roadmap to implementation” document that outlined progress made on recommended actions. Continuing to evaluate our progress, showing both successes and gaps, will be a priority for the 2017 Update and subsequent iterations of the IWRS.

### III. Setting Expectations for the 2017 Update

The Integrated Water Resources Strategy is ambitious, and as such, agencies and other partners have taken a phased approach to implementation. In the first round of implementation, Oregon’s natural resources agencies focused primarily on building our existing data and monitoring programs—for both groundwater and surface water—and developing the capacity at the state and local level to help with collaborative planning and implementation of water resources projects.

Using a phased approach to implementation means that, although significant progress has been made over the past three years, many actions under the IWRS need further attention or resources to carry out. The Department is proposing to keep the goals, objectives, and guiding principles of the 2012 IWRS intact. For the 2017 Update, the Department intends to focus our attention on reporting progress toward implementation, exploring a few key topic areas that require further attention or resources, and identifying recommended actions that will be the priority for implementation following adoption of the 2017 IWRS.

Preparing for extreme events (such as droughts, floods, and earthquakes) and adapting to climate change are important issues facing Oregon that will be better reflected in the next iteration of the IWRS. Through [Executive Order 15-09](#), Governor Kate Brown has directed the Department and its partner agencies to further address climate-related risks and to build drought resiliency into the 2017 Integrated Water Resources Strategy.

Below is a basic framework for updating the Integrated Water Resources Strategy. Public input and advisory group discussions will likely influence the direction or emphasis on certain work-products or processes.

- **Revisions** – Slight revisions to IWRS chapters to reflect new data, maps, and studies. The Project Team and other sister agencies will inform this effort.
- **Reporting Progress** – Include sections that show or demonstrate progress for each recommended action. Indicate which actions need targeted investments to further implementation. Develop a concise “progress report” briefer that builds upon the March 2015 “Roadmap to Implementation” report.
- **Address Drought and Other Emerging Issues.** Include a new sub-section on drought, other extreme events, and emerging needs or issues. This will likely include a new subset of recommended actions.

- **Develop an Implementation Workplan.** Develop a workplan of priority recommended actions for implementation in 2017-22.

#### **IV. Public Involvement & Stakeholder Engagement**

Public involvement and stakeholder engagement will occur during the 2017 Update process, along with advisory group discussions, and opportunities to review and comment on the draft 2017 IWRS. Planned activities and events to solicit public input are discussed below.

The Department will continue to maintain a project website for the Integrated Water Resources Strategy where public meetings, draft documents, and opportunities for comment will be shared. The Department maintains an email distribution list with over 1,200 subscribers. This tool will be used to disseminate information to the public. The IWRS Project Team also has a dedicated email address ([waterstrategy@wrd.state.or.us](mailto:waterstrategy@wrd.state.or.us)) where the public and stakeholders can contact staff any time to share concerns, thoughts, or suggestions.

- The project website is available here: [http://www.oregon.gov/OWRD/pages/law/integrated\\_water\\_supply\\_strategy.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/OWRD/pages/law/integrated_water_supply_strategy.aspx)
- The public email subscription service is available here: <http://listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/iwrs>

#### **Online Survey (February-March 2016)**

In early 2016, the Department will solicit input via an online survey, distributing it to the IWRS Listserv and various stakeholder organizations. The survey will focus on the 2015 drought, associated impacts, and options to mitigate future drought risk to communities across the state.

#### **Public Meetings (April 2016)**

In 2010, the Department hosted open house events in 11 locations across the state to gather public input. For the 2017 Update, the Department will host similar events in April, with a minimum of one in each region. Possible locations include Medford, Salem, Ontario, Redmond, Pendleton, and Newport. Department staff will seek input from the Water Resources Commission sub-committee to identify specific locations, local facilitators, and partners. The IWRS Project Team agencies will also provide logistical support for these meetings.

#### **Stakeholder Meetings**

Department staff will be available to stakeholder organizations that request a briefing and discussion regarding the 2017 IWRS Update Process. These briefings could include an opportunity to provide informal input to the Project Team. Staff will also plan to brief legislative committees upon request.

## V. Project Team & Advisory Groups

The Department will convene several advisory groups to help support the 2017 Update. The IWRS Project Team, Agency Advisory Group, and Federal Liaison Group were groups convened during the first round and will be utilized, although with new members and staff, for the 2017 Update process.

*IWRS Project Team.* The IWRS Project Team consists of staff from the agencies listed below. This team is responsible for day-to-day activities, such as public outreach, content development, and inter-agency coordination.

- Oregon Water Resources Department
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- Oregon Department of Agriculture

The Project Team will also be responsible for supporting discussions of the Policy Advisory Group, described below. Project team staff will meet on a continuing basis.

*IWRS Agency Advisory Group.* Several other state agencies will also provide support for development of the next IWRS. The Agency Advisory Group includes a mix of natural resource and economic development staff whose goal is to ensure a balance of technical considerations. The group will provide much of the outreach, narrative, data, and analysis needed to develop the 2017 IWRS. Along with the four project team agencies noted above, participating agencies include:

- Oregon Department of Energy
- Oregon Department of Forestry
- Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
- Oregon Department of Housing and Community Services
- Oregon Department of Land Conservation & Development
- Oregon Department of State Lands
- Oregon Department of Transportation
- Oregon Governor's Natural Resources Office
- Oregon Health Authority – Environmental Public Health Section & Drinking Water Section
- Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority & Business Oregon
- Oregon Parks & Recreation Department
- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

*Federal Liaison Group.* The Federal Liaison Group (FLG) is another coordinating group of federal agencies with land management or water-related responsibilities. The FLG meets on a less frequent basis, but will be likely play a key role in drought-related discussions, considering their role in water supply forecasting, technical assistance, and drought-related funding programs. The Department will convene the FLG members during the IWRS development process.



*Policy Advisory Group.* The Policy Advisory Group that was convened to support development of the first IWRS was instrumental in laying the foundation and shaping the content of the IWRS. The Department will convene a new policy advisory group to provide feedback and guidance to the IWRS Project Team.

The Department will strive to select members that represent a diverse geography, expertise, and interest. The Department plans to bring together those that are knowledgeable about water-related issues, and hopes to gather members of the public that are new to the Integrated Water Resources Strategy.

The following is a proposed schedule and suggested content for the Policy Advisory Group discussions:

|  |
|--|
| <b>Meeting 1: March 30, 2016</b>   |
| Welcome and overview, set expectations, review guiding principles, discuss 2017 process, and allow opportunity to identify emerging issues. Introduce IWRS progress report, bring forth public input gathered thus far.  |
| <b>Meeting 2: June 8, 2016</b>   |
| Begin discussion of draft recommended actions, share technical reports, including the 2015 Water Demand Forecast and 2016 Monitoring Strategy. Discuss revised progress report, drought-focused discussion & input (e.g., new policy, initiatives, and data); allow opportunity for identifying other emerging issues. |
| <b>Meeting 3: September 14, 2016</b>   |
| Continue discussion on draft recommended actions; sketch beginnings of 5-year workplan (2017 – 2022).  |
| <b>Meeting 4: November 30, 2016</b>  |
| Bring forth final draft recommended actions for review and input. Following meeting, make revisions, release IWRS draft for public comment (target release: October 31).   |

*Water Resources Commission Sub-Committee.* Commissioners Bruce Corn and Bob Baumgartner are serving on a sub-committee of the Commission to provide feedback and help guide the 2017 update process. As necessary, staff will schedule check-in meetings with the sub-committee on various topics, in between regularly scheduled Commission meetings.

## VI. Adoption

The Water Resources Commission will be responsible for adopting the 2017 IWRS. Plan adoption must also be recognized by administrative rule. The Department will present the 2017 IWRS to the Water Resources Commission for adoption during its summer 2017 meeting.

## VII. Project Schedule

|   | 2016  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 2017 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|
|   | J   | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D | J    | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D  |   |  |                                      |
| Launch IWRS Update 2017   | ■   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Convene IWRS Project Team   |   | ■ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Drought Survey  |   | ■ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Open Houses (4-5)   |   |   |   | ■ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Stakeholder Briefings   |   |   | ■ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| PAG Meetings  |   |   | 1 |   | 2 |   | 3 |   | 4 |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Commission Updates  |   | ■ |   |   | ■ |   | ■ |   | ■ |   | ■ |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Legislative Session   |   | ■ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | ■    | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Draft Progress Report   |   |   | ■ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Revised Progress Report   |   |   |   |   | ■ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Draft Drought Chapter & Actions   |   |   |   |   |   | ■ |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Draft IWRS Released   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | ■ | ■ | ■ |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Public Comment Period   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | ■ | ■ | ■ |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Final revisions and formatting  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | ■    | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Notify other boards/commissions   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      | ■ | ■ | ■ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Adoption  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   | ■ | ■ |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| Rule-Making   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   | ■ | ■ | ■ |   |  |   |  |                                      |
| <table border="0" style="width:100%"> <tr> <td style="width:50%"><b>Water Resources Commission 2016 Meeting Dates</b><br/>February 25-26, 2016<br/>May 19-20, 2016<br/>August 18-19, 2016<br/>October 13-14, 2016</td> <td style="width:50%"><b>Water Resources Commission 2017 Meeting Dates</b><br/>TBD</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>IWRS PAG Meeting Dates</b><br/>March 30, 2016<br/>June 8, 2016<br/>September 14, 2016<br/>November 30, 2016</td> <td><b>IWRS Open House Events</b><br/>TBD</td> </tr> </table> |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | <b>Water Resources Commission 2016 Meeting Dates</b><br>February 25-26, 2016<br>May 19-20, 2016<br>August 18-19, 2016<br>October 13-14, 2016 | <b>Water Resources Commission 2017 Meeting Dates</b><br>TBD | <b>IWRS PAG Meeting Dates</b><br>March 30, 2016<br>June 8, 2016<br>September 14, 2016<br>November 30, 2016 | <b>IWRS Open House Events</b><br>TBD |
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| <b>IWRS PAG Meeting Dates</b><br>March 30, 2016<br>June 8, 2016<br>September 14, 2016<br>November 30, 2016  | <b>IWRS Open House Events</b><br>TBD                        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |                                      |

## VIII. The Legal Framework – ORS 536.220

Below is an excerpt from ORS 536.220, which provides the legal authority and foundation for development of Oregon’s Integrated Water Resources Strategy and subsequent iterations.

### **536.220 Policy on water resources generally; integrated state water resources strategy.**

(1) The Legislative Assembly recognizes and declares that:

- (a) The maintenance of the present level of the economic and general welfare of the people of this state and the future growth and development of this state for the increased economic and general welfare of the people thereof are in large part dependent upon a proper utilization and control of the water resources of this state, and such use and control is therefore a matter of greatest concern and highest priority.
- (b) A proper utilization and control of the water resources of this state can be achieved only through a coordinated, integrated state water resources policy, through plans and programs for the development of such water resources and through other activities designed to encourage, promote and secure the maximum beneficial use and control of such water resources, all carried out by a single state agency.
- (c) The economic and general welfare of the people of this state have been seriously impaired and are in danger of further impairment by the exercise of some single-purpose power or influence over the water resources of this state or portions thereof by each of a large number of public authorities, and by an equally large number of legislative declarations by statute of single-purpose policies with regard to such water resources, resulting in friction and duplication of activity among such public authorities, in confusion as to what is primary and what is secondary beneficial use or control of such water resources and in a consequent failure to utilize and control such water resources for multiple purposes for the maximum beneficial use and control possible and necessary.

(2) The Legislative Assembly, therefore, finds that:

- (a) It is in the interest of the public welfare that a coordinated, integrated state water resources policy be formulated and means provided for its enforcement, that plans and programs for the development and enlargement of the water resources of this state be devised and promoted and that other activities designed to encourage, promote and secure the maximum beneficial use and control of such water resources and the development of additional water supplies be carried out by a single state agency that, in carrying out its functions, shall give proper and adequate consideration to the multiple aspects of the beneficial use and control of such water resources with an impartiality of interest except that designed to best protect and promote the public welfare generally.
- (b) The state water resources policy shall be consistent with the goal set forth in ORS 468B.155.

(3)(a) The Water Resources Department shall develop an integrated state water resources strategy to implement the state water resources policy specified in subsection (2) of this section. The department shall design the strategy to meet Oregon's in-stream and out-of-stream water needs.

(b) The Water Resources Department shall work in close cooperation with the Department of Environmental Quality and the State Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop the integrated state water resources strategy in consultation with other state, local and federal agencies, with other states, with Indian tribes, with stakeholders and with the public.

(c) The Water Resources Department, in close cooperation with the Department of Environmental Quality and the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, shall develop data on an ongoing basis to forecast Oregon's in-stream and out-of-stream water needs, including but not limited to in-stream, underground water, human consumption and water supply needs, for the purpose of developing and updating the integrated state water resources strategy.

(d) The integrated state water resources strategy shall describe the following:

(A) Oregon's in-stream and out-of-stream water needs, including but not limited to ecosystem services, water quality and water supply needs.

(B) Objectives of the strategy.

(C) Actions that are designed to achieve the objectives of the strategy.

(D) Plans related to the challenges presented by climate change.

(E) Provisions to ensure communication and partnership with key stakeholders.

(F) Specific functions and roles to be played by state agencies, including but not limited to the State Department of Agriculture, the State Forestry Department, the Department of Human Services, the Oregon Business Development Department, the Department of Land Conservation and Development, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, the State Parks and Recreation Department, the Department of State Lands and other relevant state agencies.

(G) Public policy options and recommendations.

(H) Relevant strategy factors, including but not limited to population growth and land use change.

(I) Recommendations of the Water Resources Department regarding the continuous monitoring of climate change effects on Oregon's water supply and regarding water user actions that are necessary to address climate change.

(e) (A) The Water Resources Commission shall give the Environmental Quality Commission, the State Department of Agriculture and the State Department of Fish and Wildlife notice of the integrated state water resources strategy prior to adoption of the strategy. The strategy shall take effect upon adoption by the Water Resources Commission.

(B) The Water Resources Commission shall review and update the integrated state water resources strategy every five years. The Water Resources Commission shall give notice to the Environmental Quality Commission, the State Department of

Agriculture and the State Department of Fish and Wildlife prior to adopting any revisions of the strategy. Revisions of the strategy shall take effect upon the Water Resources Commission's adoption of the revised strategy by reference in rule.

(4) This section does not limit the authority granted the Environmental Quality Commission or the Department of Environmental Quality under ORS chapter 468B. [1955 c.707 §1; 1989 c.833 §53; 2009 c.907 §44; 2013 c.1 §76]

**DRAFT**



# Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy Progress Report

February 2016

## ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This at-a-glance implementation document uses a five-point bar scale to help illustrate progress made under Oregon's 2012 Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS). In March 2015, the IWRS Project Team shared its first progress report, a "roadmap to implementation," with the Water Resources Commission. The first report evaluated progress made under the IWRS 2012-2017 implementation workplan. A progress bar with 4 squares [■ ■ ■ ■] means the Department and its partners fully met the commitments of that recommended action, as described in the implementation workplan. A progress bar with no squares means little to no work has been completed under that recommended action.

This new format condenses the March 2015 progress report into a short summary tool. As we gather more implementation updates from our sister agencies, stakeholders, and other public and private organizations, the Water Resources Department will continue to evaluate and revise future iterations of this progress report.

## ABOUT THE KEY

- Completed
- IP In Progress
- Not yet started

## SNAPSHOT OF PROGRESS

### Objective 1: Understand Water Resources Today

- ■ ■ ■ 1A. Conduct additional groundwater investigations
- ■ ■ ■ 1B. Improve water resources data collection and monitoring
- ■ ■ ■ 1C. Coordinate inter-agency data collection, processing, and use in decision-making

### Objective 2: Understand Instream and Out-of-Stream Needs

- ■ ■ ■ 2A. Update long-term water demand forecasts
- ■ ■ ■ 2B. Improve water-use measurement and reporting
- ■ ■ ■ 2C. Determine pre-1909 water right claims
- ■ ■ ■ 2D. Update water right records with contact information
- ■ ■ ■ 2E. Update Oregon's water-related permitting guide
- ■ ■ ■ 3A. Determine flows needed (quality & quantity) to support instream needs
- ■ ■ ■ 3B. Determine needs of groundwater-dependent ecosystems

### Objective 3: Understand the Coming Pressures that affect our Needs and Supplies

- ■ ■ ■ 4A. Analyze effects on water from energy development projects and policies
- ■ ■ ■ 4B. Take advantage of existing infrastructure to develop hydroelectric power
- ■ ■ ■ 4C. Promote strategies that increase/integrate energy and water savings
- ■ ■ ■ 5A. Support continued basin-scale climate change research efforts
- ■ ■ ■ 5B. Assist with climate change adaptation and resiliency strategies
- ■ ■ ■ 6A. Improve integration of water info into land use planning (vice versa)
- ■ ■ ■ 6B. Update state agency coordination plans
- ■ ■ ■ 6C. Encourage low impact development practices
- ■ ■ ■ 7A. Develop and upgrade water & wastewater infrastructure
- ■ ■ ■ 7B. Encourage regional (sub-basin) approaches to water/ wastewater systems
- ■ ■ ■ 8A. Support implementation of Oregon's K-12 environmental literacy plan
- ■ ■ ■ 8B. Provide education & training for Oregon's next generation of water experts
- ■ ■ ■ 8C. Promote community education and training opportunities
- ■ ■ ■ 8D. Identify ongoing water-related research needs

### Objective 4: Meet Oregon's Instream and Out-of-Stream Needs

- ■ ■ ■ 9A. Undertake place-based integrated, water resources planning
- ■ ■ ■ 9B. Coordinate implementation of existing natural resource plans
- ■ ■ ■ 9C. Partner with federal agencies, tribes, and neighboring states in long-term water resources management
- ■ ■ ■ 10A. Improve water-use efficiency and water conservation
- ■ ■ ■ 10B. Improve access to built storage
- ■ ■ ■ 10C. Encourage additional water reuse projects
- ■ ■ ■ 10D. Reach environmental outcomes with non-regulatory alternatives
- ■ ■ ■ 10E. Authorize and fund a water supply development program
- ■ ■ ■ 11A. Improve watershed health, resiliency, and capacity for natural storage
- ■ ■ ■ 11B. Develop additional instream protections
- ■ ■ ■ 11C. Prevent and eradicate invasive species
- ■ ■ ■ 11D. Protect and restore instream habitat and habitat access for fish & wildlife
- ■ ■ ■ 12A. Ensure the safety of Oregon's drinking water
- ■ ■ ■ 12B. Reduce the use of and exposure to toxics and other pollutants
- ■ ■ ■ 12C. Implement water quality pollution control plans
- ■ ■ ■ 13A. Fund development and implementation of Oregon's IWRS
- ■ ■ ■ 13B. Fund water resources management activities at the state level
- ■ ■ ■ 13C. Fund communities needing feasibility studies for water conservation, storage, and reuse projects

## PROGRESS ON INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS


**1A. Conduct Additional Groundwater Investigations**

- IP Test water quality in private drinking water wells
- IP Maintain and install additional monitoring wells
- IP Partner with USGS to conduct and cost-share additional groundwater investigations
- IP Assess groundwater administrative areas
- IP Locate and document exempt use wells
- IP Locate and document UICs


**1B. Improve Water Resources Data Collection and Monitoring**

- IP Establish dedicated monitoring wells
- IP Update Oregon's stream gage network
- Implement an on-going state-wide groundwater quality monitoring program
- Prioritize basins for data collection and monitoring
- IP Evaluate habitat conditions and effectiveness of restoration efforts
- IP Add remote and real-time capability to monitoring stations


**1C. Coordinate Inter-Agency Data Collection, Processing, & Use in Decision-Making**

- Coordinate federal, state & local monitoring and data efforts
- IP Improve and integrate data from partners
- IP Process backlogs
- IP Improve availability of information
- Invest in scientific modeling tools
- Map major water institutions, documenting their responsibilities, programs, data


**2A. Update Long-Term Water Demand Forecasts**

- Update the state's long-term water demand forecast
- Update crop water-use tables
- Quantify/model economic value of instream and out-of-stream water
- IP Enhance the state's water use reporting system


**2B. Improve Water-Use Measurement and Reporting**

- Reinstate a water-use reporting coordinator at WRD
- IP Fully implement the State's Water Measurement Strategy; offer cost-share dollars
- Encourage businesses to conduct self-evaluations of water use
- IP Employ remote-sensing


**2C. Determine Pre-1909 Water Right Claims**

- IP Complete un-adjudicated areas
- IP Settle federal reserved claims, including tribal claims
- Settle groundwater claims


**2D. Update Water Right Records with Contact Information**

- Authorize WRD to update names on water right certificates
- Update related water right database and GIS records
- Rule-making should specify acceptable documentation


**2E. Update Oregon's Water-Related Permitting Guide**

- Provide updated agency contacts, policies, links
- Provide industry-specific information where possible


**3A. Determine Flows Needed (Quality & Quantity) to Support Instream Needs**

- Conduct base flow needs studies
- IP Develop elevated flow requirements
- Develop models/studies on economic value of instream and out-of-stream water


**3B. Determine Needs of Groundwater-Dependent Ecosystems**

- IP Identify and characterize groundwater-dependent ecosystems statewide
- IP Complete groundwater basin studies


**4A. Analyze Effects on Water from Energy Development Projects and Policies**

- Analyze the water demands and water quality impacts of current and proposed water-intensive energy development projects (bio-energy, geothermal, solar, natural gas, and hydroelectric)


**4B. Take Advantage of Existing Infrastructure to Develop Hydroelectric Power**

- IP Utilize the state's expedited application process to develop hydroelectric projects at existing infrastructure


**4C. Promote Strategies That Increase/Integrate Energy and Water Savings**

- IP Move toward energy independence for publicly operated treatment works (wastewater treatment)
- Encourage communities to look for and integrate ways to conserve both energy and water
- Continue to implement and evaluate building codes that encourage water and energy efficiency
- Ensure that efficiency programs capture and publicly report both water-energy savings data
- Partner with Oregon's 10-year Energy Action Plan to promote conservation strategies for water & energy


**5A. Support Continued Basin-Scale Climate Change Research Efforts**

- IP Improve climate change projections at a basin scale
- IP Develop reliable projections of basin-scale hydrology, and their impacts on other systems

 **5B. Assist with Climate Change Adaptation and Resiliency Strategies**

- IP Provide support to communities to incorporate climate change into their planning decisions
- IP Look for more efficient ways to conserve, store, and reuse water in anticipation of climate change
- IP Invest and make improvements in surface water and groundwater monitoring
- IP Invest in real-time forecasting of water deliveries, basin yield, streamflow, flood and drought frequency projections
- Analyze how instream and out-of-stream water rights will fare with hydrologic changes
- Analyze how water rights will fare with changing crop needs
- IP Use the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Ready Water Utilities Program
- IP Increase ecosystem resiliency to climate change
- IP Ensure continued water and wastewater services in a changing climate

 **6A. Improve Integration of Water Info into Land Use Planning (vice versa)**

- Develop and share information regarding the location, quantity, and quality of water resources
- Protect water sources in the course of land use decisions

 **6B. Update State Agency Coordination Plans**

- Update State Agency Coordination Programs in coordination with DLCDC

 **6C. Encourage Low Impact Development Practices**

- Compile and provide online information on low impact development policies
- Update local development codes, improving local capacity to review and permit green infrastructure designs

 **7A. Develop and Upgrade Water & Wastewater Infrastructure**

- Improve dam safety; retrofit for seismic issues
- IP Develop emergency action plans for high hazard dams
- Properly abandon infrastructure at the end of its useful life
- Use an "asset management" approach to identify and plan for rehabilitation, upgrade or replacement of infrastructure
- IP Ensure that basic maintenance needs continue to be eligible for grant and loan funding
- IP Advocate for continued infrastructure funding
- Encourage communities to consider natural infrastructure in lieu of, or as a complement to, built infrastructure.

 **7B. Encourage Regional (Sub-Basin) Approaches to Water/ Wastewater Systems**

- Provides incentives, such as funding and technical assistance

 **8A. Support Implementation of Oregon's K-12 Environmental Literacy Plan**

- Support funding for implementation
- Natural resource agencies, community organizations, and others should engage in education for environmental literacy activities

 **8B. Provide Education & Training for Oregon's Next Generation of Water Experts**

- Conduct a survey of water organizations in Oregon
- Determine whether educational programs in Oregon are equipped to meet the coming demand for water professionals
- Offer internships, fellowships, and job shadow programs to expose students to careers in water
- Continue funding support for water-related trade programs at Oregon community colleges

 **8C. Promote Community Education and Training Opportunities**

- Continue to promote education and outreach through actions required in local Water Management & Conservation Plans
- IP Promote technical training for public and private partners
- IP Promote access to water-related recreational opportunities through the use of the Water Trails Program

 **8D. Identify Ongoing Water-Related Research Needs**


- IP Continue to identify ongoing research needs at the local and state level
- IP Partner with public and private researchers

 **9A. Undertake Place-Based Integrated, Water Resources Planning**

- Develop a template for place-based integrated water resources strategies
- Provide technical assistance and other incentives to communities undertaking place-based IWRS
- IP Compile relevant and readily-available water-related information to support place-based IWRS

 **9B. Coordinate Implementation of Existing Natural Resource Plans**

- Coordinate and reconcile existing ecological planning and restoration efforts
- IP Dedicate resources for state and local implementation

 **9C. Partner with Federal Agencies, Tribes, and Neighboring States in Long-Term Water Resources Management**

- IP Protect Oregon's interests in shared surface water and groundwater basins
- IP Partner to improve access to additional stored water

 **10A. Improve Water-Use Efficiency and Water Conservation**

- Establish and maintain an online water-use efficiency and conservation clearinghouse
- Prioritize agricultural water-use efficiency
- Expand outreach and participation in the State's water-use efficiency and conservation programs
- Conduct a state-wide water conservation potential assessment

 **10B. Improve Access to Built Storage**

- IP Develop additional below-ground storage sites
- IP Re-allocate water in federal reservoir systems that have not undertaken formal allocation processes
- IP Develop additional above-ground, off-channel storage sites where needed
- Evaluate the status of storage infrastructure
- Authorize and fund the State to invest in and purchase water from stored water facilities



 **10C. Encourage Additional Water Reuse Projects**

- Conduct a statewide assessment of the potential for additional water reuse
- Ensure that Oregon has the right policies and regulations in place to facilitate water reuse
- Provide incentives for increased water reuse

 **10D. Reach Environmental Outcomes with Non-Regulatory Alternatives**

- IP** Assist in the research and development of non-regulatory tools to meet environmental outcomes
- IP** Develop protocols for translating water quality projects into credits
- IP** Develop protocols for translating streamflow restoration into credits and accounting strategies
- IP** Complete stream functional assessment

 **10E. Authorize and Fund a Water Supply Development Program**

- IP** Identify opportunities for the State to serve as a partner in water supply development projects
- IP** Authorize the Water Resources Department to invest in projects, to purchase and/or contract for water supplies
- Authorize bonds to finance these investments

 **11A. Improve Watershed Health, Resiliency, and Capacity for Natural Storage**

- IP** Preserve wetlands
- IP** Restore floodplain functions
- IP** Maintain forested areas
- IP** Improve riparian conditions

 **11B. Develop Additional Instream Protections**

- Establish additional instream water rights where needed to protect flows
- Designate scenic waterways where needed to protect recreation, fish, and wildlife uses
- IP** Expand the use of voluntary programs to restore streamflow
- IP** Expand the geographic range of flow restoration efforts

 **11C. Prevent and Eradicate Invasive Species**

- IP** Support the Oregon Conservation Strategy's six state-wide actions to prevent new introductions, and decrease the scale and spread of infestations
- IP** Implement and enforce ballast water management regulations

 **11D. Protect and Restore Instream Habitat and Habitat Access for Fish & Wildlife**

- IP** Remove fish passage barriers and support fish screening efforts by implementing actions in Oregon's Conservation Strategy
- IP** Build upon existing ecological planning and restoration efforts

 **12A. Ensure the Safety of Oregon's Drinking Water**

- IP** Assist public water suppliers; support small public water systems
- IP** Protect drinking water sources
- IP** Monitor public drinking water for contaminants of emerging concern
- IP** Encourage water providers to join the Oregon Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network
- IP** Increase domestic well testing

 **12B. Reduce the Use of and Exposure to Toxics and Other Pollutants**

- IP** Finalize and implement DEQ's Toxics Reduction Strategy
- Implement green chemistry executive order, including revising purchasing practices related to toxic chemicals
- IP** Implement Water Quality Pesticide Management Plan
- IP** Support Pesticide Stewardship Partnerships
- IP** Establish and fund "take back programs"
- IP** Continue to identify and address hazardous or contaminated sites, including brownfields
- Prevent blue-green algae from forming beyond natural background levels
- Monitor recreational waters and inform the public when contaminants are present

 **12C. Implement Water Quality Pollution Control Plans**

- IP** Continue to develop and implement TMDLs for water bodies that do not meet water quality standards
- IP** Continue to address nonpoint sources of pollution across all land uses; increase monitoring
- IP** Ensure effective management and oversight of stormwater in urbanized areas
- IP** Assist communities with septic system challenges

 **13A. Fund Development and Implementation of Oregon's IWRS**

- Fund implementation of 2012-2017 IWRS
- Fund required updates of state-level IWRS
- Fund development of place-based IWRS

 **13B. Fund Water Resources Management Activities at the State Level**

- IP** Fund those water management activities for which the State has responsibility
- IP** Ensure increased and adequate funding from the General Fund
- IP** Seek additional funding sources

 **13C. Fund Communities Needing Feasibility Studies for Water Conservation, Storage, and Reuse Projects**

- Continue to provide SB 1069 grants to help evaluate the feasibility of water conservation, storage, and reuse projects