

# Upper Deschutes WaterSMART Basin Study



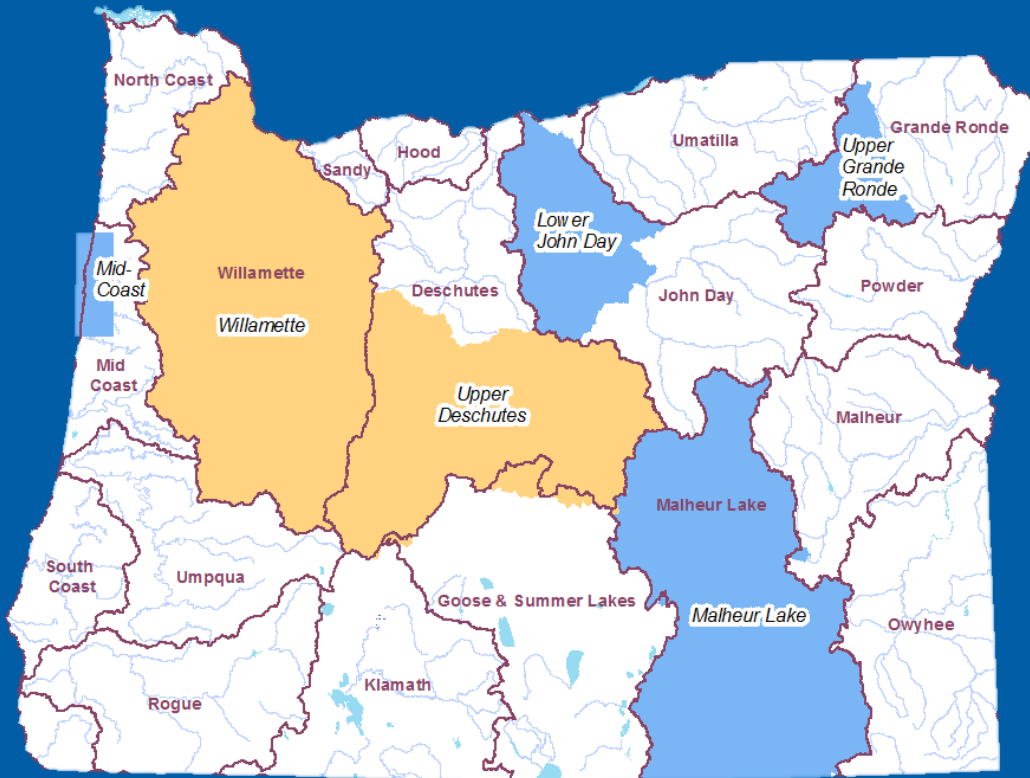
*Investing in regional water planning and  
climate resiliency*



**November 15, 2018**

**Kyle Gorman, South Central Region Manager  
Harmony Burrignt, Planning Coordinator**

- Context + Background
- Basin Study Approach
- Partners + Governance
- Department Involvement + Support
  - Financial Assistance
  - Planning Partner/Assistance
  - Technical Assistance
- Lessons Learned
- Outputs, Outcomes, + Next Steps

# Funded Planning Efforts

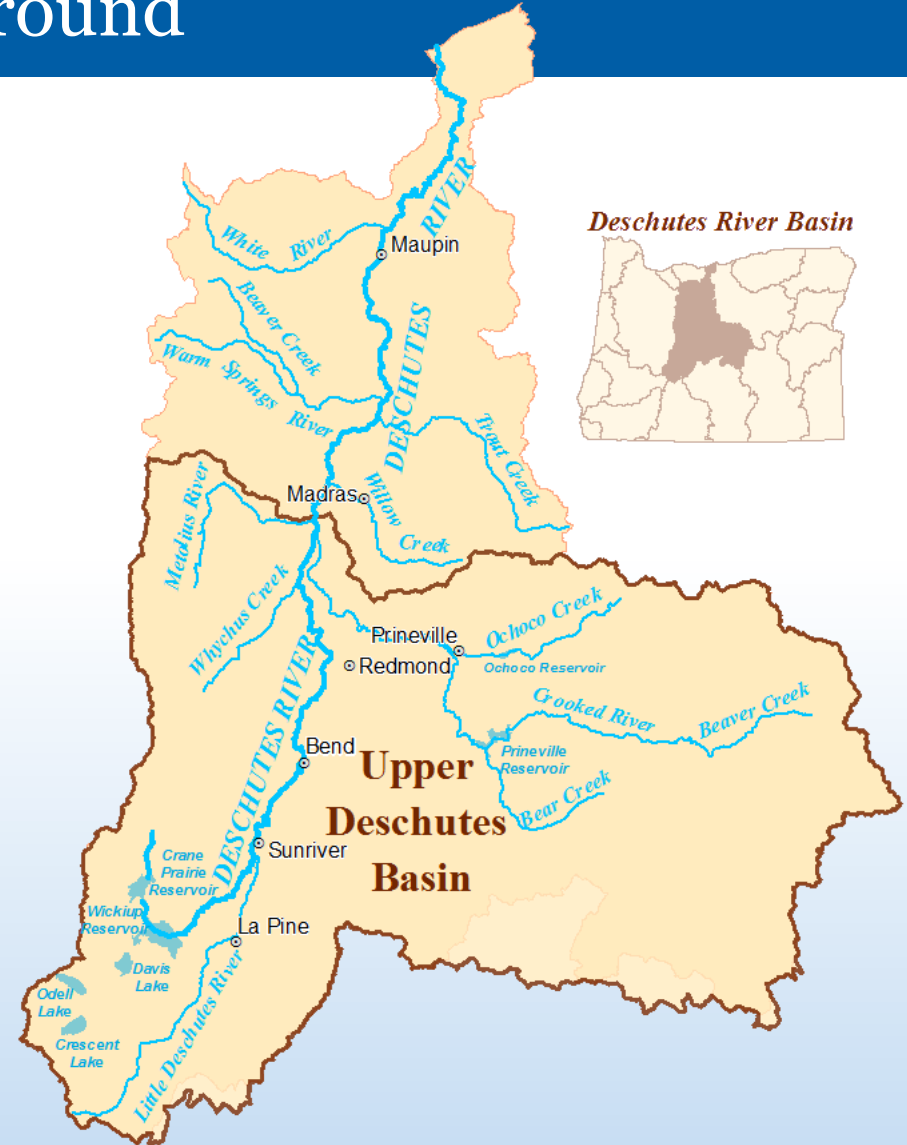


-  Federally cost-shared Basin Studies
-  Place-based planning areas

- Other WaterSMART Basin Studies
- Following the key planning principles and steps of Place-Based Planning
- Different funding mechanism

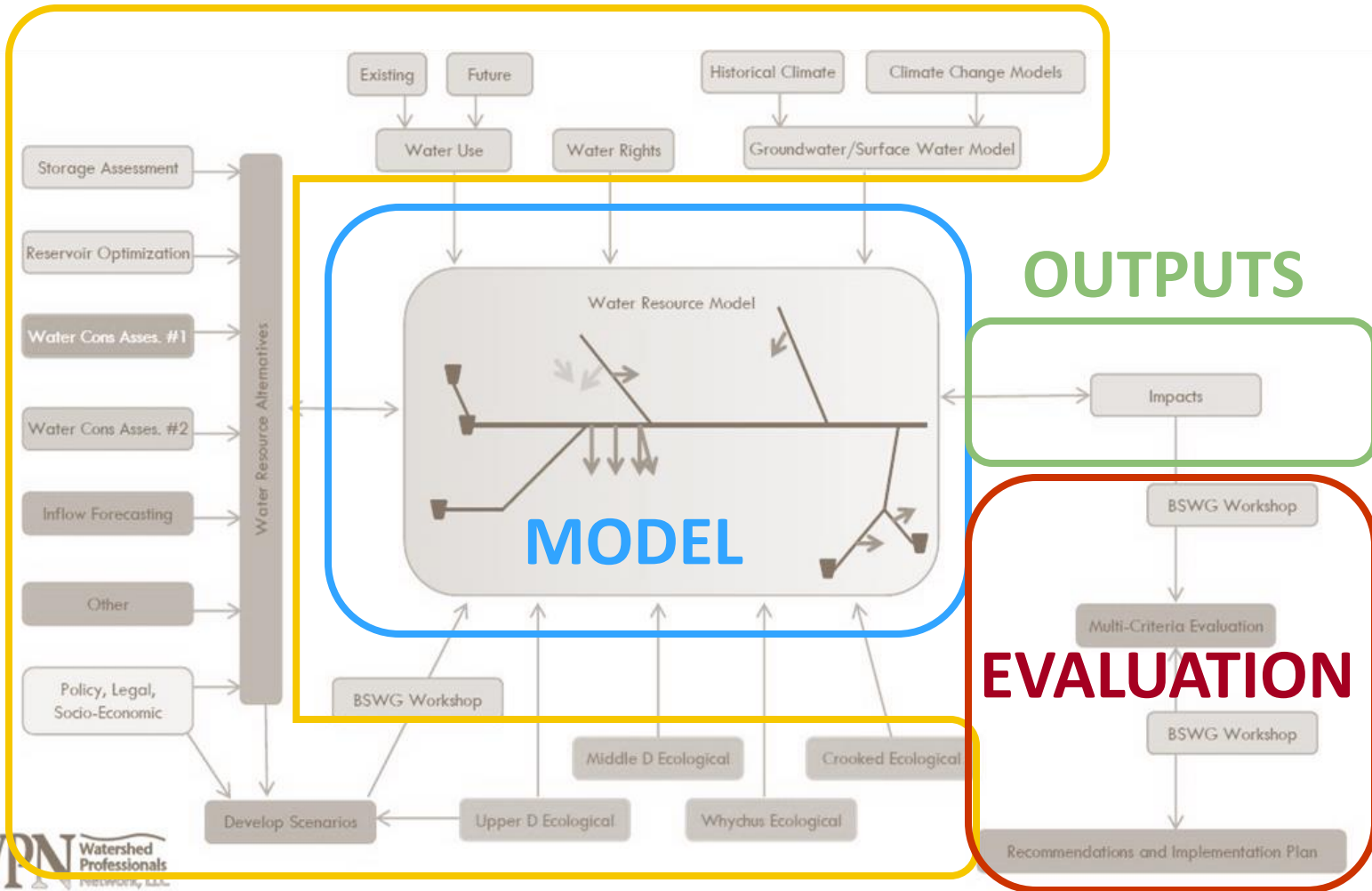
# Background

- Building on a long tradition of collaboration
- OWRD involvement in past collaborative efforts
- Key drivers for the Basin Study



# Basin Study Approach

**INPUTS**  
Models  
Objectives  
Scenarios





- Cities, county, irrigation districts, watershed councils, conservation groups, state and federal agencies, tribes
- 36+ partners

## Upper Deschutes River Basin Study

Memorandum of Agreement:

Deschutes Basin Board of Control  
and  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

April 2015



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Pacific Northwest Region  
Boise, ID



Deschutes Basin Board of Control  
PO Box 919  
Madras, OR 97741



# Department Roles + Objectives

Director's Office

Internal coordination, outreach, assistance with grant management

Field Services

Technical assistance provider and planning partner

Technical Services

Document reviews

Water Rights Services

Document reviews

Administrative Services

Grant management and fiscal accountability



## Department Assistance + Support

- Financial Assistance
  - \$750,000 from Water Supply Development Fund
- Planning Partner/Assistance
  - Participation in Planning Team, Steering Committee, and Working Groups
- Technical Assistance
  - Technical contributions to Working Groups; review of models, technical memos, and Basin Study Report
- Total Department Hours: >2000



“OWRD staff are engaged, responsive, and collaborative. We've received honest and open input on technical questions, always in a very constructive manner and focused on getting a better product. Everyone at Reclamation really appreciates the expertise, ideas and energy that the OWRD brings to the study.”

- Mike Relf, Reclamation Project Manager

## Lessons Learned

- Value of Department being able to provide upfront technical and policy support/information
- Need to maintain and improve tools (e.g., models) to support ongoing planning efforts
- Field services participation has been vital to overall participation
- Difficult to meet the needs of the study without additional resources
- Limited Department capacity can be challenging for partners

# Outputs + Outcomes

- **Technical Tools, Information, and Resources**
  - RiverWare Model, GS Flow Model, PRMS
  - 20 Technical Memos
- **Relationships**
  - Diverse partners involved – relationship and trust building
- **Coordination**
  - Alignment between efforts both internal and external
- **Outreach and Education**
  - Increased awareness and understanding
- **Problem-Solving**
  - Examination of broad suite of tools and scenarios to address complex water issues

# Recap and Reflections

- Tremendous investment by federal, state and local partners
- Desire to make use of the many products and tools that have been developed
- Complex basin issues – lots of moving parts





## Basin Study Planning Team Members

- **Kate Fitzpatrick**, Deschutes River Conservancy and Process Coordinator for the Basin Study
- **Craig Horrell**, Central Oregon Irrigation District and Deschutes Basin Board of Control
- **Adam Sussman**, GSI Water Solutions
- **Tod Heisler**, Deschutes River Conservancy
- **Greg Garnett**, US Bureau of Reclamation
- **Kyle Gorman**, OWRD