

# Legislative and Budget Update



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# Overview

- Interim Legislative Activities
- 2021 Legislative Concepts
- 2021-2023 Budget
- 2021 Session



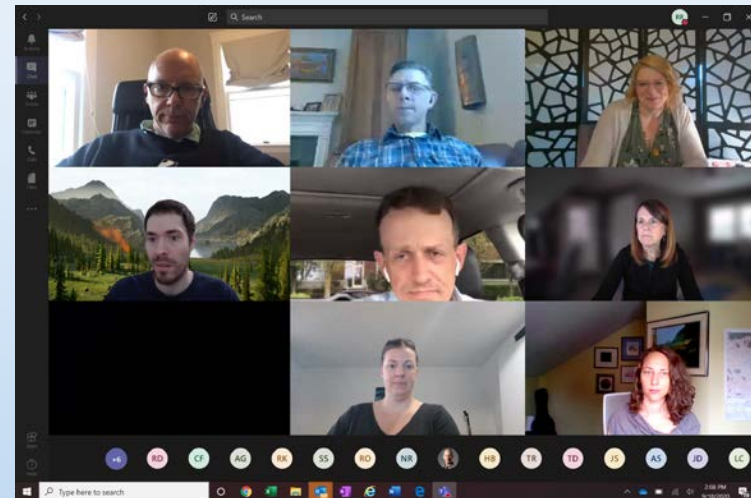
## September Legislative Days

- House Water: Dam Safety Program challenges and priorities



## Water Data Work Group

- Options to increase water use measurement and reporting data





# Budget Challenges

- Legal expenses budget shortfall
  - 10 % General Fund budget reduction from August Special Session
  - Remote work; changed operations



# 2021 Legislative Concepts

- Changes to Rights to Store Water
  - Still a priority, but little bandwidth to work on
  - Current bill directs study
- Water Rights Transactions and Dam Safety Fees
  - 17.39% increase
  - Retain 2.50 FTE of the 8.83 FTE eliminated



## Well Construction Program Modernization LC Updates

- Well constructor skills
- Documentation and notification
- Injunction authority
- Continuing education
- Driller liability
- Well Repair, Replacement, and Abandonment Fund
- NOTE: Still under discussion





# 2021 Legislative Concepts

- Extending Irrigation District Pilot Project
- Updating Hydroelectric Fee Structure
- Process Ahead
  - Governor's office approval
  - Filing in December
  - Bills released in January



# 2021-2023 Budget

August 2020

- Agency Request Budget

December 2020

- Governor's Recommended Budget

Spring 2021

- Legislature finalizes budget



# 2021-2023 Agency Budget

## Agency Request Budget POPs – *See Attachments*

- Protecting Public Safety and Water Supplies
- Strategic Modernization of IT Systems and Tools
- Legal Expenses
- Water Transactions, Dam Safety, & Hydro Fees
- Protecting groundwater supplies & public health
- Reductions: Water Rights Section POP 070 & agency 10 % reductions list
- Full list of POPS in materials – narratives [online](#)



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



Oregon Water  
Resources  
Department  
Strategic Plan  
2019-2024

# 2021 Legislative Session

- Session will likely look different than prior years
- 160 days in odd-numbered years
- Start: January 19
- Constitutional Sine Die: June 28



OREGON



WATER RESOURCES  
DEPARTMENT