

# 2021-2023 Budget and Legislative Update



## Oregon Water Resources Commission August 25, 2021

Racquel Rancier, Policy Manager

Lisa Snyder, Administrative  
Services Administrator

Bryn Hudson, Water Policy Analyst



- Sine Die June 25
- More than 2,500 measures introduced



The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface for the "Oregon State Legislature". The meeting title is "Oregon State Legislature". The grid displays four participants: Rachel Sharley, HUSON Ryan \*WRD, Sen Giddens, and Sen Peterson. There are also three circular icons labeled "Beth P", "IS", and "HH". The control bar at the bottom shows a play button, a volume icon, a progress bar at 42:19 / 1:04:56, and icons for mute, video, chat, and audio. The meeting title "Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery 01/25/2021 3:15 PM" is displayed at the bottom, along with "Download" and "Audio" options.



## \$538 Million Investment in Water

- **\$282.2 million:** improvements to drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure; increased safety and resiliency
- **\$135.7 million:** public works funds and financial assistance to repair and replace water infrastructure
- **\$86.4 million:** regional and basin-specific and water supply projects
- **\$11.2 million:** data collection and technology modernization
- **\$17.7 million:** water quality improvements
- **\$5 million:** Oregon's 100-Year Water Vision, equitable water access, and state, local, and regional water planning

## 2021 Session – Budget Summary

	<b>2019-21 Legislatively Approved 1/21</b>	<b>2021-23 Governor's Recommended</b>	<b>2021-23 Legislatively Adopted</b>
<b>General Fund (GF)</b>	\$35,217,838	\$40,104,341	\$58,566,215
<b>Other Funds (OF) including Fees</b>	\$14,413,830	\$12,365,697	\$35,741,255
<b>Other Funds - Grants/Loans</b>	\$85,849,252	\$80,997,925	\$86,142,041
<b>Lottery Funds - Debt Service</b>	\$7,563,194	\$14,289,736	\$9,499,510
<b>Federal Funds</b>	\$1,148,011	\$716,840	\$725,000
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$144,192,125</b>	<b>\$148,474,539</b>	<b>\$190,674,021</b>
<b>Positions / Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)</b>	<b>178/172.67</b>	<b>170/165.44</b>	<b>209/196.81</b>

# Integrated Water Resources Strategy

## ( 1 ) Understand Water Resources Today

**Further Understand Limited Water Supplies & Systems**  
(groundwater, surface water, and their interaction)

**Improve Water Quality & Quantity Information**

**Further Understand Our Water Management Institutions**

### Understanding Water Resources / Supplies / Institutions

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

← OBJECTIVES →

← CRITICAL ISSUES →

RECOMMENDED  
← ACTIONS →

## ( 2 ) Understand Instream and Out-of-Stream Needs

**Further Define Out-of-Stream Needs / Demands**  
(i.e., diverted water)

**Further Define Instream Needs / Demands**  
(i.e., left-in-place water)

### Understanding Oregon's Out-of-Stream Needs/Demands

- 2.A Regularly update long-term water demand forecasts
- 2.B Improve water-use measurement and reporting
- 2.C Determine adjudicated water right claims
- 2.D Authorize the update of water right records with contact information
- 2.E Regularly update Oregon's water-related permitting guide

### Understanding Oregon's Instream Needs/Demands

- 3.A Determine flows needed (quality and quantity) to support instream needs
- 3.B Determine needs of groundwater dependent ecosystems

← OBJECTIVES →

← CRITICAL ISSUES →

RECOMMENDED  
← ACTIONS →

## ( 3 ) Understand the Coming Pressures That Affect Our Needs and Supplies

**Economic Development**

**Water & Energy**

**Climate Change**

**Extreme Events**

**Population Growth**

**Water & Land Use**

**Water-Related Infrastructure**

**Education & Outreach**

### Water & Energy

- 4.A Analyze the effects on water from energy development projects and policies
- 4.B Take advantage of existing infrastructure to develop non-traditional hydroelectric power
- 4.C Promote strategies that increase/integrate energy and water savings

### Climate Change

- 5.A Support continued basin-scale climate change research efforts
- 5.B Assist with climate change adaptation and resiliency strategies

### Extreme Events

- 5.5A Plan and prepare for drought resiliency
- 5.5B Plan and prepare for flood events
- 5.5C Plan and prepare for a Cascadia subduction earthquake event

### Economic Development & Population Growth

(See Actions 2A and 3A)

### Water & Land Use

- 6.A Improve integration of water information into land use planning (and vice versa)
- 6.B Improve state agency coordination
- 6.C Encourage low-impact development practices and green infrastructure

### Water-Related Infrastructure

- 7.A Develop and upgrade water and wastewater infrastructure
- 7.B Encourage regional (sub-basin) approaches to water and wastewater systems
- 7.C Ensure public safety/dam safety

### Education & Outreach

- 8.A Support Oregon's K-12 environmental literacy plan
- 8.B Provide education and training for Oregon's next generation of water experts
- 8.C Promote community education and training opportunities
- 8.D Identify ongoing water-related research needs

## ( 4 ) Meet Oregon's Instream and Out-of-Stream Needs

**Place-Based Efforts**

**Water Management & Development**

**Healthy Ecosystems**

**Public Health**

**Funding**

### Place-Based Efforts

- 9.A Continue to undertake place-based integrated, water resources planning
- 9.B Coordinate implementation of existing natural resource plans
- 9.C Partner with federal agencies, tribes, and neighboring states in long-term water resources management

### Water Management & Development

- 10.A Improve water-use efficiency and water conservation
- 10.B Improve access to built storage
- 10.C Encourage additional water reuse projects
- 10.D Reach environmental outcomes with non-regulatory alternatives
- 10.E Continue the water resources development program
- 10.F Provide an adequate presence in the field
- 10.G Strengthen water quantity and water quality permitting programs

### Healthy Ecosystems

- 11.A Improve watershed health, resiliency, and capacity for natural storage
- 11.B Develop additional instream protections
- 11.C Prevent and eradicate invasive species
- 11.D Protect and restore instream habitat and habitat access for fish and wildlife
- 11.E Develop additional groundwater protections

### Public Health

- 12.A Ensure the safety of Oregon's drinking water
- 12.B Reduce the use of and exposure to toxics and other pollutants
- 12.C Implement water quality pollution control plans

### Funding

- 13.A Fund development and implementation of Oregon's IWRS
- 13.B Fund water resources management activities at state agencies
- 13.C Invest in local or regional water planning efforts
- 13.D Invest in feasibility studies for water resources projects
- 13.E Invest in implementation of water resources projects

## Data

- Groundwater budgets and basin studies
- Statewide consumptive water use and evaporation from all major reservoirs
- Surface and groundwater data collection equipment
- Expansion of groundwater level monitoring network
- Report on Water Use Measurement



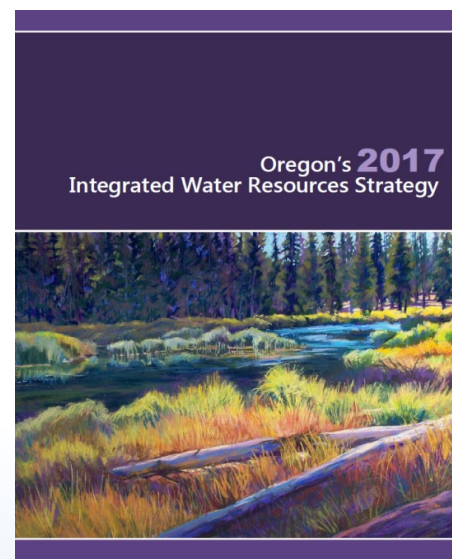
## Data

- Business Case for Water
- Dam safety flood methodology and inundation assessments



## Policy Work

- Complex Water Issues including Willamette and Deschutes Basins
- 2022 IWRS update
- HB 3103: Workgroup on transfers of stored water
- Regional water planning workgroup
- Sustainable funding model for fee-based programs workgroup





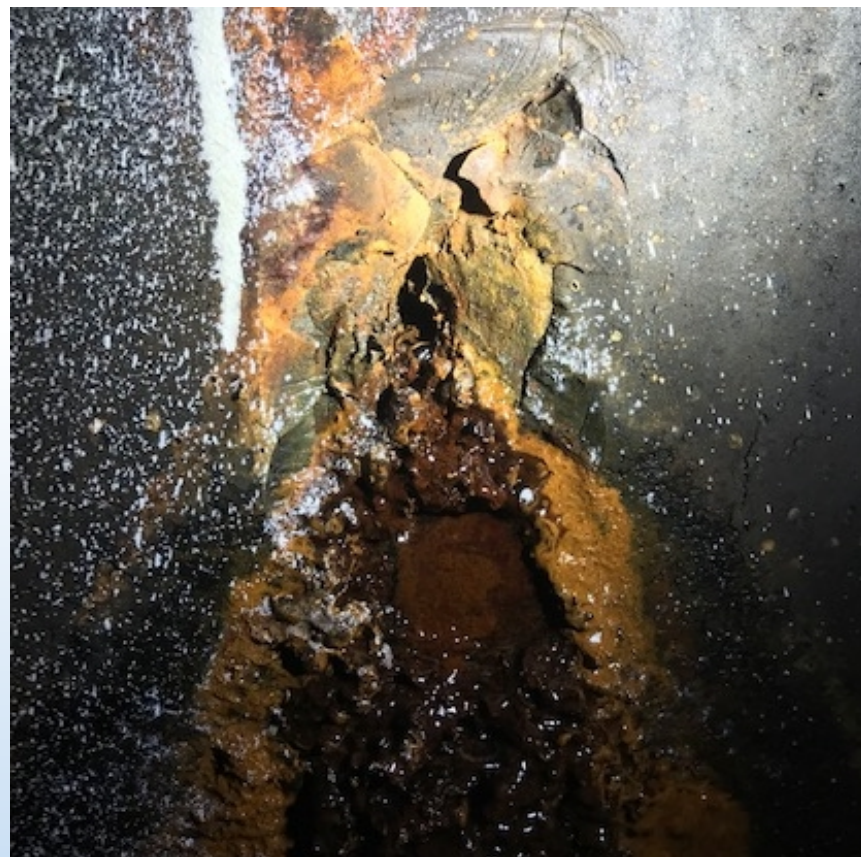
## Grants and Funding

- Grant program for Water Well Repair, Replacement and Abandonment – HB 2145
- Grant program for Harney Water Well Remediation - HB 3092
- Harney CREP Program
- Water project support for community engagement – HB 3293



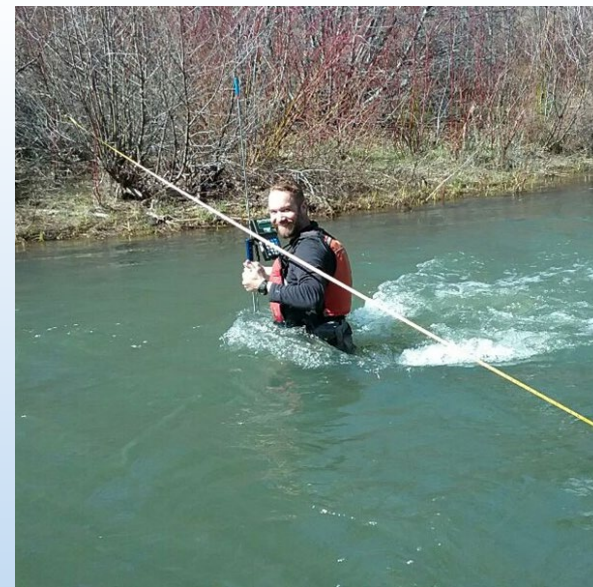
## Grants and Funding

- Equitable water access and indigenous water resiliency
- Water infrastructure projects and fish passage upgrades
- Place-based planning
- Water Measurement
- Columbia River - Umatilla Solutions Task Force
- Water projects grants and loans and feasibility studies



## Other Investments in WRD

- Funding for Legal Expenses and Protest Backlog
- Maintaining Water Right and Dam Safety Services – HB 2142
- Modernization of IT Systems and Tools
- Hydroelectric Annual Fees – HB 2143
- Timely Water Management and Distribution



## Additional Legislation

- HB 2145: Well Construction Modernization
  - Implementing 100% Technical Well Log Reviews
  - Implementing additional changes through 2024
- SB 130: Irrigation District Temporary Transfers
- HB 2244: Automatic Stays
- HB 2298: Environmental Restoration Weirs
- HB 3103: Transfers of Stored Water
  - Character of use

## Legislative Days

- September 21 - 24, 2021
- November 15 - 18, 2021
- January 10 - 13, 2022

## 2022 “Short Session”

- February 1 - March 7, 2022

Important Legislative Dates						
February 2022						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
		2022 Legislative Session Days - Read more				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		2022 Legislative Session Days - Read more				
			Revenue Forecast			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		2022 Legislative Session Days - Read more				
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		2022 Legislative Session Days - Read more				
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
		2022 Legislative Session Days - Read more				

OREGON



WATER RESOURCES  
DEPARTMENT