



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Water Resources Department

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**WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION  
VIRTUAL MEETING  
March 17 - 18, 2022  
AGENDA**

**HOW TO JOIN THE VIRTUAL MEETING**

The public is invited to participate in the meeting in a number of ways:

**YouTube Live Stream:** To view the meeting via YouTube live stream on March 17, 2022 click on this link: [https://youtu.be/E40DeC\\_fumQ](https://youtu.be/E40DeC_fumQ). To view the meeting via YouTube live stream on March 18, 2022 click on this link: <https://youtu.be/K9cHDv9W-Nw>. Public comment will not be accepted through this platform. Please note there may be a slight delay when streaming the meeting content. *In order to preserve bandwidth for presenters and individuals providing comment, the Department highly encourages those who are not presenting or providing comment to utilize this method to view or listen to the meeting.*

**Join by Zoom via Video:** You may join the meeting on one or both days by clicking on this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81604806347?pwd=MWx5UGMyUnhTTINhWHBxRIMzYVIYQT09>. To prevent background noise, all attendees will be muted upon joining the meeting. To improve bandwidth during the meeting, only members of the Commission, Department staff, and presenters will appear on video display. Individuals providing public comment may appear on video display during the time they are presenting. *Please see page 3-4 for instructions on how to submit public comment.*

**Join by Zoom via Telephone:** You may join the meeting on one or both days by dialing 1 (253) 215-8782. When prompted, enter the meeting ID (816 0480 6347) and passcode (339310). To prevent background noise, all callers will be muted upon joining the meeting. *Please see page 4 for instructions on how to submit public comment.*

**Timing of Agenda Items:** If a specific time is indicated for an agenda item, every effort will be made to consider the item as close to the scheduled time as possible. However, because of the uncertain length of time needed for each agenda item, scheduled times may be modified. Those wishing to hear discussion on a specific item should join at the beginning of the meeting to avoid missing the discussion.

**Meeting Materials:** Staff reports for individual agenda items, when available, can be found on the Commission's website by clicking on the following link:

[https://apps.wrd.state.or.us/apps/misc/wrd\\_notice\\_view/Default.aspx?notice\\_id=41](https://apps.wrd.state.or.us/apps/misc/wrd_notice_view/Default.aspx?notice_id=41)

**COMMISSION MEETING: Thursday, March 17, 2022 (12:30 PM – 5:00 PM)**

View via YouTube Live Stream: [https://youtu.be/E40DeC\\_fumQ](https://youtu.be/E40DeC_fumQ)

**A. Commissioner Comments (12:30 PM – 1:00 PM)**

Commissioners will report on their recent activities, share information, and comment on a variety of water resource topics.

**B. Approval of Minutes (1:00 PM – 1:05 PM)**

The minutes of the December 3, 2021 meeting will be presented for Commission approval. *The Commission will be asked to approve the minutes.*

**C. Director's Report (1:05 PM – 1:45 PM)**

Tom Byler, Director, will provide an update on Department business and late-breaking issues. *This is an informational report.*

**BREAK (1:45 PM – 2:00 PM)**

**D. Update on Implementation of Projects (2:00 PM – 2:45 PM)**

Tom Byler, Director, will discuss the implementation of projects following the 2021 Legislative Session, including the status of recruitments, projects, and rulemaking. *This is an informational report.*

**E. Groundwater Allocation – Proposed Action Plan (2:45 PM – 3:45 PM)**

Doug Woodcock, Deputy Director, Water Management; Ivan Gall, Field Services Division Administrator; and Justin Iverson, Groundwater Section Manager, will follow up on the Groundwater Allocation presentation from the last Commission meeting to discuss the Department's proposed plan of action to modernize management of Oregon's groundwater resources. *This is an informational report.*

**BREAK (3:45 -4:00)**

**F. State Recognition of the Upper Grand Ronde River Watershed Partnership's Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Plan (4:00 PM – 5:00 PM)**

Donna Beverage, Union County Commissioner; Dana Kurtz, Senior Environmental Scientist, Anderson Perry & Associates; Jed Hassinger, Union County Farm Bureau; Anton Chiono, Water Transactions Specialist, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation; Kim Fritz-Ogren, Planning, Collaboration, and Investments Manager; and Steve Parrett, Planning Coordinator, will present the Upper Grande Ronde River Watershed Integrated Water Resources Plan and the accompanying state agency recommendations for state-recognition of the plan. *The Commission will be asked to recognize the plan.*

**COMMISSION MEETING: Friday, March 18, 2022 (8:00 AM – 12:00 PM)**

View via YouTube Live Stream: <https://youtu.be/K9cHDv9W-Nw>

**G. Legislative and Budget Update (8:00 AM – 9:00 AM)**

Racquel Rancier, Deputy Director, Strategy and Administration; Lisa Snyder, Administrative Services Division Administrator; and Bryn Hudson, Legislative Coordinator, will provide a recap on the 2021 second Special Legislative Session, the 2022 Legislative Session, and an overview of the 2023 budget and legislative development process. *This is an informational report.*

**H. Update on the Well Abandonment, Repair, and Replacement Fund (9:00 AM – 9:30 AM)**

Kim Fritz-Ogren, Planning, Collaboration, and Investments Manager, and Becky Williams, Grant Program Coordinator will provide an update on the implementation of the Well Abandonment, Repair, and Replacement Fund. *This is an informational report.*

**BREAK (9:30 AM – 9:45 AM)**

**\*I Division 51 Rulemaking – Hydroelectric Project Annual Fees (9:45 AM – 10:05 AM)**

Breeze Potter, Water Policy Analyst and Rules Coordinator, will present a request to amend OAR 690-051-0400 to remove language relating to hydroelectric project annual fees to conform rule with statute. *The Commission will be asked to consider the adoption of the proposed rule.*

**\*J. Division 54 Rulemaking – Conversion of Hydroelectric Water Rights to Instream (10:05 AM – 10:50 AM)**

Breeze Potter, Water Policy Analyst and Rules Coordinator, will present a request to adopt new rules governing the conversion of hydroelectric water rights to instream water rights. *The Commission will be asked to consider the adoption of the proposed rules.*

**BREAK (10:50 AM – 11:00 AM)**

**K. Evaluation of Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Planning (11:00 AM – 12:00 PM)**

Rebecca McLain, National Policy Consensus Center; Kim Fritz-Ogren, Planning, Collaboration, and Investments Manager; and Steve Parrett, Planning Coordinator, will present the results of the independent evaluation of the pilot phase of place-based integrated water resources planning. *This is an informational report.*

**L. Public Comment and Other Issues (Approximately 12:00 PM)**

**MEETING PROCEDURES**

Agenda items are generally taken in the order listed above. However, under certain circumstances, the Commission may elect to take an item out of order.

**\*Public Testimony and Written Comments:** The Commission encourages public comment on any agenda item. However, public testimony is limited on items marked with an asterisk (\*). Items marked with an asterisk are subject to a formal public hearing or contested case hearing. Note the Commission cannot accept comments on items with an asterisk, as the public comment period for those items is closed.

**Written Comments:** Early delivery of written comments is strongly encouraged in order that Commissioners have sufficient opportunity to review materials prior to the meeting. *To ensure full consideration by the Commission, written comments must be emailed to [nirvana.cook@water.oregon.gov](mailto:nirvana.cook@water.oregon.gov) by 5:00 PM on Monday, March 14.* A confirmation email will be sent. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please call Nirvana Cook at (503) 798-3196.

**Oral Comments:** Oral public comments may be limited to three minutes. Comments relating to a specific agenda item will be heard by the Commission as each agenda item is considered. Comments on other topics may be made during the public comment period. *To make an oral public comment, you must electronically submit an Oral Public Comment Request Form, or notify Nirvana Cook by phone.* Oral Public Comment Request Forms can be found on the Commission’s website.

To find the form, click on the link below, and scroll to the bottom of the webpage:

[www.oregon.gov/owrd/aboutus/Commission/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/owrd/aboutus/Commission/Pages/default.aspx). A confirmation email will be sent. If you do not receive a confirmation email, or to submit an oral public comment request by phone, please call Nirvana Cook at (503) 798-3196.

**Executive Session:** The Commission may also convene in a confidential Executive Session where, by law, only members of the press and Department staff may attend. Before convening such a session the presiding Commissioner will make a public announcement and explain the necessary procedures.

**Special Accommodations:** If special accommodations are needed for this meeting, please advise Nirvana Cook (contact information below) as soon as possible, *but at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.*

**Staff Contact:** If you have any questions about this agenda or the Commission’s procedures, please contact Nirvana Cook at [nirvana.cook@water.oregon.gov](mailto:nirvana.cook@water.oregon.gov) or (503)798-3196.

### WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>City of Residence</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Meg Reeves, Chair	Corvallis	West Side at Large	2024
Woody Wolfe	Wallowa	Eastern Region	2025
Jan Lee	Sandy	Northwest Region	2025
Kathy Kihara	Bend	East Side at Large	2025
Eric Quaempts	Adams	North Central Region	2025
Joe Moll	Eugene	West Central Region	2025
Julie Smitherman	Talent	Southwest Region	2025

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#### **Oregon Water Resources Department**

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