



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Water Resources Department

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### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Water Resources Commission

**FROM:** Thomas M. Byler, Director

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item D, March 17, 2022  
Water Resources Commission

### Update on Implementation of Projects

#### I. Introduction

Staff will brief the Commission on the status of Department efforts to implement work associated with the 2021-2023 budget and legislation. This report is for informational purposes.

#### II. Background

In 2021, the Oregon Legislative Assembly made unprecedented investments in water. In the long Legislative Session, about \$538 million was invested in water-related issues, including funding specific water projects, authorizing numerous work groups, studies and assessments, supporting and enhancing existing programs, and establishing new programs. Additional water investment was made by the Legislature at the second Special Session in December 2021.

A subset of this overall water investment focused directly on the Water Resources Department, resulting in 67 new positions and over 40 significant new tasks and responsibilities for the agency to carry out in addition to its existing workload.

Staff will report on 2021-2023 budget and legislation implementation progress to date and expected future activities.

#### Attachments:

1. OWRD Select Projects Tracking List

Project	Description	Category	Type	Completed	In Progress	Next Steps	Issues / Risks	Link
<b>Data Center Migration</b>	Continued migration of WRD computer infrastructure to the DAS Data Center.	Administration	Information Technology	In Flight, 90% complete	Working on remaining server infrastructure needing to be migrated to state data center.	Database Migration in April 2022	Other deliverables and technical obstacles has slowed this effort down. This work must be balanced on limited technical staffing resources to allow for parallel work on projects in this spreadsheet and labor required for pandemic response.	
<b>Field Office Network Upgrades</b>	Continued work to bring all field offices onto high speed internet and state networks.	Administration	Information Technology	Medford, Bend, Klamath Falls and Pendleton complete.	Had initial meeting with Douglas County and DAS. Initial meetings with Eugene and Lane County held.	Next meeting to coordinate IPSec Tunnel Settings between State and County. Roseburg next.	Work continues very slowly due to resource constraints.	
<b>Intranet Migration</b>	Migration of Intranet to new server infrastructure in the M365 cloud.	Administration	Information Technology	Migration 95% complete. Coordination with key business units regarding content to migrate.		Remaining items being reported and handled as they are identified. Old Intranet remains available for reference of any missed items.	Completed	
<b>M365 Email Migration</b>	Mandated change of email address happening November 17th.	Administration	Information Technology	•Project planning with DAS on email change. Early adopters changed and tested. Troubleshooting issues from early adopters.		Migration of OWRD and OWEB on 11/17	COMPLETED.	
<b>M365 Implementation</b>	Agency Implementation, Training and Adoption of M365 Services (Microsoft Cloud).	Administration	Information Technology	Rollout of M365 solution(s) complete but there is a lot of work remaining with regard to training, adoption and workflow modification.		Continued work supporting business units and field offices in the adoption of these cloud services, replacing legacy services like file servers.	Ongoing coordination with EIS on new feature rollouts and infrastructure changes supporting M365	

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<b>Mobile Device Management Implementation</b>	Procurement and rollout of mobile device management solution to securely manage phones and tablets.	Administration	Information Technology	Protoype of new system rolled out to early adopters. Agency rollout to happen through device lifecycle replacement over the next 18 months.		Lifecycle replacement continues and we continue MDM rollout through this process with low impact to staff.	35% complete	
<b>System LifeCycle Replacement</b>	Continued replacement of staff computer equipment based on age and special need.	Administration	Information Technology	Ongoing project.		Continue to replace equipment based on criteria established by the IS Manager.		
<b>Ticketing System Replacement</b>	Agency ticketing system is being aged out and must be replaced.	Administration	Information Technology	Analysis of potential replacement options.	50% complete	Decision of new solution, procurement and implementation over next six months.	Procurement continues to be a challenge based on limited resources and state procurement rules.	
<b>Work From Anywhere Modernization</b>	Continued work in support of adapting to "Work from anywhere".	Administration	Information Technology	Analysis, Procurement and Implementation of computer and network resources to support agency "Work from Anywhere". Including moving from Desktops to Laptops and remote access solutions for high bandwidth systems not served well over the VPN.		Continued migration to Laptops and analysis of remote desktop solutions to replace the many desktop computers being left running for high bandwidth systems like ArcGIS. Continued work with planning by exec team, reopening team and workplace reimaged.	Continued analysis and coordination with EIS on WFA (Work From Anywhere)	
<b>Develop Training and Safety Program</b>	Complete initial assessment of WRD's safety policies and practices.	Administration	Modern Workforce	Hired HR position with Safety responsibilities.	Attendance at Safety Committee meetings. Training and onboarding.		Current focus of HR is on recruitments.	
<b>Management Training</b>	Training provided at AMG meetings to enhance management skills.	Administration	Modern Workforce	•45 minute sessions have begun. •Will continue with recruitment and onboarding theme until completed.	Topics have been focused on recruitment processes in Workday.	Continued focus on recruitment and Workday processes in preparation for Workday Payroll and Time Tracking.	Focus is on recruitment processes and highest priority "must do's".	

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<b>Reopening to Public</b>	Develop and Implement Plan for reopening agency for public access on January 3, 2022	Administration	Modern Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Draft Reopening Plan prepared</li> <li>•Provided status update to ACT (2/28/22)</li> <li>•Met w/ Alyssa Rash to strategize internal &amp; external communication strategy &amp; timelines (3/3/22)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Revise Draft Reopen Plan &amp; communications (reflect lifted mandates)</li> <li>•Revised draft communications to Alyssa R. for review(~3/21)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Internal &amp; external communications timeline: 3/28 target - email to AMG (prepare to discuss w/ staff)</li> <li>4/4 target - email to all OWRD staff</li> <li>4/18 target - email to external &amp; press release</li> </ul>		
<b>Recruitments</b>	<b>38 new positions from 2021 Legislative Session plus vacancies</b>	Administration	Modern Workforce	As of March 15, twenty one of the thirty eight new positions have been filled.	Eight recruitments are in process.	The remaining nine are either in position description drafting stage or have not yet been started.	Job market. Some positions experiencing fewer applicants than in previous recruitments. Managers have several positions to fill and train in short period of time.	
<b>SB 5561 Cannabis Package (special session)</b>	Funds 29 FTE with information/data tools to support enforcement activities	Administration	Modern Workforce	3 of 6 SWR AWMs have been hired. 1 of 5 NWR AWMs has been hired and recruiting is in process.	Recruiting is pending on 1 in each of the remaining 3 Regions (NCR, ER, SCR). 2 of 4 admin positions posted. Working with stakeholders on OpenET questions and enforcement section questions; determine whether to reformulate expenditure	Recruitment has not yet begun on Enforcement Section (ES) component. Finalize budget, obtain necessary approvals, and recruit positions.	Recruitments delayed to to address stakeholder concerns over budget package	

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<b>Work Reimagined</b>	Determination of Department processes associated with hybrid work (i.e., position eligibility), including alignment with DAS policies and guidance.	Administration	Modern Workforce	-Charter approved -Formed PM team workgroup -Held section meetings and surveyed staff on the project -Made recommendations to ACT for work type determination process -Began scoping workplace rearrangement work	Discussing work types with leadership	Finalize workplace rearrangement workplan with ACT/Sponsor  Finalize worktype determinations for staff (HR)	Internal discussions regarding worktypes require additional time	
<b>Records Management</b>	Implement records management and retention updates and best practices	Administration	Records	Position filled with a start date of 4/18/22.		Training and onboarding of new Records Officer		
<b>Deschutes and Complex Basins</b>	Funds a communications and policy development work on complex basin water issues, including the Deschutes Basin	Basin Support	Basin Support	-Interviewed internal candidates and posted position for external recruitment ☑Received request from Deschutes Water Collaborative with recommendations on how to spend \$200K	-reviewing candidates -reviewing request for use of \$200K contracted services funds	•Complete recruitment process for position		
<b>Walla Walla Long-Term Planning</b>	Work with the State of Washington, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and local interests on long-term management in Walla Walla Basin	Basin Support	Basin Support	• Meetings with CTUIR and Ecology. • Strategic plan complete • New advisory committee established		• Implement Phase II of the SP • Select bi-state flow study preferred alternative(s) • Work on bi-state management issues with Ecology		
<b>Willamette Basin Reallocation</b>	Implement the Willamette Reservoir Reallocation.	Basin Support	Basin Support	Position filled on 3/1/2022	Onboarding new staff	Conduct stakeholder interviews and an assessment to develop a basin workplan		

Project	Description	Category	Type	Completed	In Progress	Next Steps	Issues / Risks	Link
<b>Harney Conservation Reserve Program</b>	State and federal funds to enroll GW users in voluntary program to cancel GW irrigation rights & replace irrigated ground w/native grasses	Basin Support	Cost Share	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•CREP position being recruited externally; interviewing</li> <li>•Submitted proposal to USDA Farm Service Agency 2nd time 1/26/22</li> <li>•Worked with partners to develop and finalize the Harney Groundwater Conservation and Reserve Enhancement Proposal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Rachel Lovellford is leading the interview process. Two rounds of interviews complete (internal and external)</li> <li>Final round of interviews upcoming soon.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Final round of interviews</li> </ul>		
<b>Develop Communications Program</b>	Public Information Coordinator position to provide external and internal communications and support on emergency response and preparedness	Communications	Resiliency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•New staff started 1/5/2022</li> <li>•Explored options for modernizing listservs</li> <li>•Drafted communications gaps and needs survey for staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Assessing communications activities and needs</li> <li>•Training and onboarding new PIO</li> <li>•Procuring GovDelivery for listservs</li> <li>•Issue survey to staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Develop communications plan and prioritize communications projects</li> <li>•Hire new position obtained in 2nd Special Session.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Drought, cannabis legislation communications, other issues, and increased media inquiries divert staff time from formation of communications program</li> </ul>	
<b>Develop and Implement Plan for Spending the \$5 million for dam safety flood, analysis, and assessments</b>	\$5 million - (\$1 million general funds and \$4 million ARPA funds) to contract for professional engineering services to perform flood methodology, inundation assessments, and engineering analyses for dams.	Dam Safety	Contract	7 of 12 contracts awarded for \$1M GF. 1 contract direct award to owner.	2 RFPs out to bid for \$1M GF and 2 will go out to bid soon. 5 RFPs for \$3.11M out of \$4M ARPA funds drafted. 1 RFP is complete and under review by DAS. 2 additional RFPs are under development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get the last 2 contracts for the \$1M GF out to bid</li> <li>• Finalize 4 contracts for \$3.11M in ARPA funds</li> <li>• Develop contracts for the remaining \$0.888M in ARPA funds</li> </ul>	Awaiting information on use of ARPA funds from federal gov/DAS	
<b>Big Creek Dams grant</b>	Provides \$14 million in the Water Supply Fund for a grant	Dam Safety	Direct Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Requested project details for a grant agreement from recipient</li> <li>•Received project information in late December, reviewed and requested clarification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Received revised information from recipient and currently reviewing project information to ensure complete and sufficient for agreement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Develop and execute grant agreement</li> <li>•Manage grant</li> </ul>	Lottery Bond Sale May 2022 / 2023	

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<b>Wallowa Lake Dam Grant</b>	Provides \$14 million in Water Supply Fund	Dam Safety	Direct Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Received project information on 1/4/22 from recipient and requested clarification, received revised information on 3/7/22 and currently reviewing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review project information to ensure complete and sufficient for agreement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and execute grant agreement</li> <li>Manage grant</li> </ul>	Lottery Bond Sale May 2022	
<b>Water Measurement Cost Share Program and Spending Plan</b>	Develop spending plan; approach for administering; update materials \$1M ARPA funds plus ~\$100k GF	Field	Grant Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decided to move management of fund from ASD to PCI</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine ARPA requirements for funding</li> <li>Develop charter</li> </ul>	Awaiting information on use of ARPA funds	
<b>2022 Cannabis and Enforcement Legislation</b>	Addressing unauthorized water use	Field	Implement Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislation passed 2022 session</li> <li>Draft communications plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drafting communications materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct outreach on bill provisions</li> <li>Hire and train staff</li> </ul>	Cannabis policy and communications staff not yet hired	
<b>HB 2244 - Implement Stays Bill</b>	Implement bill	Field	Implement Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated final order language</li> <li>Ordered and received new regulation cards</li> <li>Templates for NOV's, etc have been updated</li> </ul>	DOJ is reviewing template notice for senior user if a PJR is filed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New regulation notices have been received. Will distribute to region managers at upcoming meeting.</li> <li>Build a template to notify water right holders when a PJR is filed that affects their water right</li> </ul>		
<b>HB 2298- Environmental Restoration Weirs</b>	HB 2298 – Directs ODFW to adopt rules and administer a program regarding environmental restoration weirs in closed basins east of the cascades on streams of a specified size.	Field	Implement Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OWRD reviewed final draft of rules</li> <li>Provided feedback on Watermaster review form for ERW projects</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessing whether project is complete or if further direction is needed for staff</li> </ul>		

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<b>SB 391</b>	Authorizes county to allow owner of lot or parcel within rural residential zone to construct one accessory dwelling unit on lot or parcel, subject to certain restrictions.	Field	Implement Law	•No action at this time		•Monitor implementation and determine if guidance for staff and counties is needed		
<b>Public Complaint Form</b>	A central public complaint web form used to reduce lengthy calls to field offices.	Field	Information Technology	A prototype was created after the Jackson County Complaint Form. Input provided from regional managers.	Feedback being incorporated into a 1.0 release.	Further enhancements being queued up for a 2.0 release at a later date.	This work remains on hold to finalize until decisions are made around SB 5561	
<b>Basin Water Budgets &amp; GW Recharge for Major Basins in OR</b>	Contract w/USGS to do the work; WRD staff support w/data & analyses; HB 2018 and POP 110	Groundwater Surface water	Data	•USGS developed a first draft detailed scope of work for contracting. OWRD reviewed and provided comments.	USGS currently working to incorporate comments into a second (perhaps final) draft.	•Finalize contract and execute Statement of Work	USGS staff also occupied with Harney and WW work.	
<b>Develop plan and implement/purchase of data collection equipment</b>	\$3 million for surface water and ground water data collection equipment	Groundwater Surface water	Data	•Not started; pending information on ARPA funds allowance from DAS/Federal Government		•Develop a plan to be shared with the Commission	Awaiting information on use of ARPA funds from federal gov/DAS	
<b>Expand Obs Well Network</b>	HB 2018 and associated POPS	Groundwater Surface water	Data	• Identify drilling locations and discussing access agreements with land owners for several initial obs well sites.	* Work with DAS to develop the ability for WRD to contract directly with drillers	•Finalize contracting approach Then iterate for each site: •Finalize site access •Archeological consultation with Tribes and SHPO •Draft technical specs and solicit bids •Schedule and conduct installation of wells, instrument wells and add to state obs network and GWIS.	Long process to finalize contracting approach with DAS. Drillers booked out over a year in some areas - may encounter difficulty installing wells before the end of the biennium.	



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<b>Statewide ET Project</b>	Develop field-scale estimates of consumptive use irrigated agricultural lands, along with estimates of evaporation from reservoirs, for the period 1984-2020 using remotely sensed ET data through OpenET.	Groundwater Surface water	Data	NRS 4 ET/Water Use Coordinator Hired - Dr. Jordan Beamer	Contract for work in review by OWRD	-Finalize contracts with DRI and OpenET -Develop of 6 month workplan and communication plan -Work with Agrimet, WRD staff, and external stakeholders on identifying locations for new weather		
<b>Walla Walla Basin Study</b>	Basin study w/USGS	Groundwater Surface water	Data	•Scope and contract in place with USGS and WA Ecology; data collection in progress	•Data collection and analysis	•Hire basin outreach staff and watermaster	•Need drilling contract for observation wells;	<a href="#">Webpage Link</a>
<b>Water Use Measurement and Reporting - Report to the Legislature</b>	Due to House Water Committee January 2022	Groundwater Surface water	Report	•Submitted to legislature •Report available online		COMPLETE	COMPLETE	<a href="#">Link to Report</a>
<b>Division 10 Rulemaking</b>	CGWA Process	Groundwater Surface water	Rulemaking	•Held public information meeting and first RAC meeting; •Scoping of public participation opportunities •Draft of rules developed •Invitations to Rules Advisory Committee	Reevaluating rulemaking scope, timelines, and RAC membership/process based on feedback	•Finalize public participation approach and develop materials for meetings; finalize scope, RAC participation, and timelines •Finalize RAC meeting dates •Hold RAC meetings, and	Limited staff capacity for carrying forward rulemakings. Rules Coordinator leaving the agency and will need to recruit.	<a href="#">Rule Webpage</a>
<b>Harney Groundwater Rulemaking</b>	Review existing rules; Develop CGWA/SWMPA rules; convene RAC	Groundwater Surface water	Rulemaking		•Not started; awaiting publication of basin study results and progress on Division 10 rulemaking	•Scoping the rulemaking process	USGS delayed in publishing final reports. Initiation of RAC tied to publication of reports. Limited staff capacity.	<a href="#">Rule Webpage</a>
<b>Klamath SWMPA or CGWA</b>	Potential to declare a Serious Water Management Problem Area (SWMPA) or Critical Groundwater Area in Klamath (CGWA)	Groundwater Surface water	Rulemaking		•Not started due to other workload priorities	•Assess resources and other priorities to determine if have sufficient resources to proceed on Klamath SWMPA or CGWA work	Limited staff capacity: current focus is on completing Div 10 rulemaking; conduct Harney SWMPA- CGWA rulemaking.	<a href="#">Rule Webpage</a>

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<b>Hydroelectric Fee Increase and Division 51 Rulemaking</b>	Implement fee increase	Hydroelectric	Implement Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Sent out billings and information notifying of fee increase</li> <li>• Drafted temporary rules and associated paperwork</li> <li>• Permanent rules drafted and associated filing paperwork prepared</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Scheduled for March Commission meeting decision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Complete permanent rulemaking process</li> </ul>		<a href="#">Rule</a> <a href="#">Webpage</a>
<b>Division 54 Rulemaking</b>	Hydro conversions to ISWR	Hydroelectric	Rulemaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Permanent rules drafted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Scheduled for March Commission meeting decision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Complete permanent rulemaking process</li> </ul>		<a href="#">Rule</a> <a href="#">Webpage</a>
<b>Racial Justice - Equitable Water Access</b>	Provides \$1 million for equitable water access and to explore water needs of Black, Indigenous, Tribal, rural and communities of color.	Other Projects	Racial Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Draft of position description started</li> <li>•Met with interested members of the Racial Justice Council Environmental Equity Subgroup and Oregon Water Futures partners to help inform the work in early February 2022</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Assess next steps based on information and discussion with partners and potential partners</li> <li>•Finish DEIJ position description and complete recruitment</li> </ul>	Staffing capacity.	
<b>Racial Justice Indigenous Energy Resiliency</b>	\$500,00 for indigenous energy resiliency to addressing Indigenous treaty water rights, water scarcity, hydropower, and ecosystem services. Establish triba	Other Projects	Racial Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•See also Racial Justice Equitable Water Access</li> <li>•Held first organizational meeting in February with representatives identified by tribes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Continue organizational meetings to discuss the formation of the workgroup</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Set up follow up meeting; continue work to setup the formal workgroup early in 2022</li> <li>•Actively looking for faciliator; hoping to have workgroup setup in April or May.</li> </ul>	Staffing capacity.	
<b>Drought Vulnerability Assessment (special session)</b>	\$300,000 General Fund to contract for a statewide drought vulnerability assessment for both instream and out-of-stream needs	Other Projects	Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Not started</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Assign staff and scope project</li> </ul>		

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<b>SB 1602 Report to the Legislature</b>	Due to legislature February 2022	Other Projects	Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submitted to legislature; report online</li> </ul>				<a href="#">Link to Report</a>
<b>Business case assessment</b>	\$350,000 General Fund was approved on a one-time basis to contract for a business case assessment to examine the economic value of water and the impact of water investment.	Other Projects	Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outreach/survey to stakeholders for input on the Request for Proposals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporating feedback from Stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize Request for Proposal</li> </ul>	Funded by General Fund - must be complete by 6/30/2023. Staffing capacity.	
<b>IWRS Update</b>	2022 update of the Integrated Water Resources Strategy - Update IWRS /facilitation and publication funding/LD	Other Projects	Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Announced that 2022 Update will be pushed back to 2023/2024 to allow for other water conversations to be incorporated into the update</li> <li>Met with Oregon Consensus</li> <li>Project planning/scoping started</li> <li>Position description drafted for IWRS specialist position</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviewing resumes for position</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modify project scope to reflect new timeframes and continue to refine project scope</li> <li>Begin work on a progress/implementation update</li> </ul>	Update to be completed in the last half of 2023 or first half of 2024; timeframes to be determined. Staffing capacity.	
<b>Workgroup on Fee Based Programs</b>	Stakeholder engagement to develop more sustainable, long-term funding mechanisms to support fee programs	Other Projects	Workgroup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial scoping started; likely delay work until after 2022 session</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awaiting information on whether can use ARPA funds</li> <li>Scope project / identify facilitator</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop informational materials</li> <li>Identify participants</li> </ul>	Whether ARPA funds can be used for this purpose is still being determined. Staffing capacity.	
<b>Place Based Planning Funding</b>	\$1 million to support place-based planning efforts - spending plan	Planning	Grant Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asked planning groups for information about their funding needs</li> <li>Awaiting clarification on how funds can be spent before developing a spend plan</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a spend plan after getting direction on funding requirements from federal government and/or DAS</li> </ul>	Awaiting information on ARPA funding	

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<b>2023 Legislation Development - Place Based Planning</b>	PBP sunsets 2023	Planning	Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Staff drafting proposal</li> <li>•Stakeholder meetings scheduled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Developing draft of potential proposals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Outreach to stakeholders and discuss interface with other processes such as regional water planning and management workgroup</li> </ul>	Authority sunsets and filing deadlines are nearing; coordination with the work of the regional water planning and management workgroup.	
<b>Regional Water Planning Workgroup</b>	Engage Oregon Consensus to convene a workgroup to consider and develop a framework for state-supported regional water planning and management	Planning	Workgroup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Work group was formed in January, held it's first meeting on 1/31 and second meeting on 3/8.</li> <li>•Support position hired on 2/7/22</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Meeting monthly in accordance with work group operating protocols</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Continue meeting</li> </ul>		<a href="#">Workgroup Webpage</a>
<b>Columbia River - Umatilla Solutions task force grant and Participate in CRUST</b>	\$500,000 in General Fund - Grant to Umatilla county to implement agreements of the Columbia River - Umatilla Solutions task force	Water Projects	Direct Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Met with recipient</li> <li>•Gathered information from DAS and DOJ on how to responsibly issue funds upfront</li> <li>•Developed form to gather information needed for grant agreement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Reaching out to grantee to talk about info we need to develop grant agreement (did not get a response to phone calls and will be reaching out again soon)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Gather information to incorporate into an inter-governmental agreement or grant agreement</li> </ul>	Funded by General Fund - must be complete by 6/30/2023	
<b>Deschutes Basin Board of Control piping Project Grant</b>	\$10 million in the Water Supply Development Account SB 5006 / SB 5534	Water Projects	Direct Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Met with recipient H29</li> <li>-Requested, received, and reviewed project details and information in order to incorporate them into a grant agreement</li> <li>-Executed grant agreement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Manage grant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Manage grant</li> </ul>	Lottery Bond Sale May 2022	
<b>Fish passage for dam upgrade projects grants</b>	Provides \$500,000 in ARPA Funds to assist local governments with meeting fish passage requirements for dam upgrade projects	Water Projects	Direct Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Made initial contact with ODFW</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Waiting for more direction on ARPA funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Talk with ODFW more; identify potential project</li> </ul>	Awaiting information on use of ARPA funds from federal gov/DAS	

Project	Description	Category	Type	Completed	In Progress	Next Steps	Issues / Risks	Link
<b>Nesika Beach Grant</b>	\$250,000 General Fund SB 5006	Water Projects	Direct Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identified point of contact for recipient</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set up meeting with recipient</li> <li>Obtain and review project information</li> <li>Develop and execute grant agreement</li> <li>Manage grant</li> </ul>	General fund dollars requires that work be complete by June 30, 2023.	
<b>Ordinance regional water infrastructure project.</b>	\$6 million in ARPA Funds for a grant to Umatilla County for the Ordinance Project.	Water Projects	Direct Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Met with recipient to get general understanding or project timeline and share what limited information is known about ARPA funding requirements</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with recipient to develop a grant agreement after we understand what the federal government may require that would need to be incorporated into the grant agreement</li> <li>Execute grant agreement</li> <li>Manage grant</li> </ul>	Awaiting information on ARPA funding	
<b>HB 3293 - Water Project Community Engagement</b>	Make support available to local organizations and local governments for purpose of developing local community engagement plans for water projects.	Water Projects	Grant Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water Core Team identified agency representatives for work</li> <li>Hired grant analyst on 12/13</li> </ul>	On Hold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop plan for coordinated rulemaking with affected agencies</li> <li>Draft charter</li> </ul>	On hold due to other workloads; do not have capacity to work on all projects at once.	
<b>HB 3103 Character of Use Changes</b>	Implement bill to allow change of Character of Use for which water is stored under a certificated storage right.	Water Rights	Implement Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consistent with the direction of the Legislature in HB 3103, as of January 1, 2022, Transfer staff are accepting and processing Transfer Applications.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address rule updates at a later date</li> </ul>		
<b>Water right fee increase</b>	Implement HB 2142 fee increase 7/1/2021	Water Rights	Implement Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project Complete</li> </ul>			Complete	
<b>2023 Legislation Development - Split Season Leasing</b>	Split season leasing to Sunset January 2, 2024	Water Rights	Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scheduled meetings with stakeholders and received internal feedback</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receiving stakeholder feedback on changes; evaluating proposals with staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work on draft bill proposal</li> <li>Continue discussions with stakeholders</li> </ul>		

Project	Description	Category	Type	Completed	In Progress	Next Steps	Issues / Risks	Link
<b>Deschutes 5 year report to the legislature</b>	Due to legislature by 1/1/2022	Water Rights	Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submitted to legislature and posted online</li> </ul>			COMPLETE	<a href="#">Link to Report</a>
<b>Division 340 Rulemaking</b>	Reclaimed water registrations	Water Rights	Rulemaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On Hold</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revise draft rules / Form new RAC</li> </ul>	Staffing capacity.	<a href="#">Rule Webpage</a>
<b>Division 77 Rulemaking</b>	Instream transfers and leases	Water Rights	Rulemaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently on hold due to other rulemaking priorities</li> <li>Discussed whether to proceed with rulemaking with Water Resources Commission</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Per direction of the Commission, prepping information to schedule another RAC meeting</li> </ul>	Staffing capacity.	<a href="#">Rule Webpage</a>
<b>HB 3103 - Transfers of Stored Water Workgroup</b>	Work with stakeholders on a path forward for transfers of stored water (point of diversion and location and associated criteria)	Water Rights	Workgroup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Started scoping; likely some delay in work until after 2022 session</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing draft workplan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify facilitator</li> <li>Scope project; work with facilitator to convene workgroup in 2022</li> </ul>	General fund dollars requires that work with facilitator be complete by June 30, 2023. Staffing capacity.	
<b>Protest Backlog Reduction</b>	\$2.2 million / limited-duration positions to facilitate the referral and completion of administrative hearings or other procedures to alleviate the backlog.	Water Rights		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 protested applications referred to Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH); 9 cases withdrawn</li> <li>Trained Hearing Officers in WRD's process in December</li> <li>DOJ hired new attorney in February to support backlog reduction project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remaining referred cases are transfers (1), surface water (2), groundwater (4), and instream (14) cases</li> <li>2 of remaining cases led by staff; 19 led by DOJ with staff support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DOJ onboarding new attorney</li> <li>OAH to schedule conferences for remaining referred cases</li> <li>OWRD continues to work on contested cases and evaluate potential settlement opportunities</li> </ul>	Given the length of the hearing process, significant changes to the number of remaining cases (versus settled or otherwise resolved cases) are anticipated over months rather than weeks.	
<b>Water Right Transactions Backlog Reduction</b>	Hire staff to reduce WRSD backlogs; Portion of \$3 million	Water Rights		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not Started</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On Hold</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awaiting decision from DAS on whether ARPA funds can be expended on this project.</li> </ul>	Awaiting information on use of ARPA funds	

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<b>HB 2145 - Set up Water Well Abandonment, Repair and Replacement Fund (HB 2145)</b>	Provides \$5.4 million to provide assistance to abandon wells and to repair or replace water wells used for household purposes.	Well Construction	Grant Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Received charter approval on 12/2</li> <li>•Received additional funding in Special Session that changed project scope; charter adjusted accordingly</li> <li>• LD NRS 4 grant position - Position posted</li> <li>•Step 1 organization completed</li> <li>• Step 2 DO Check in completed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Begin Step 3 Final Design work</li> <li>•Begin Step 4 Preparation work getting ready for implementation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Program launch in spring/summer 2022</li> </ul>	IS information security concerns to be resolved	
<b>Set up Harney Domestic Well Remediation Program</b>	\$500,000 for the Domestic Well Remediation Fund for replacing, repairing, or deepening domestic water wells affected by declining ground water level/ HB 3092	Well Construction	Grant Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Developed draft charter</li> <li>•Received charter approval on 12/2</li> <li>•Updated charter on 1/7/22 to reflect need to pause project implementation due to priority focus on Water Well Abandonment Repair and Replacement Fund</li> </ul>	On hold	Reinitiate project	Capacity is limited and focused on standing up statewide Well Abandonment, Repair, and Replacement Fund to address emergency issues associated with drought and wildfire	
<b>HB 2145 - Communications</b>	Communicate out law change to drilling community through one-pager dev. in conjunction with OGWA.	Well Construction	Implement Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Included article in January 2022 Well Said about January changes and upcoming 7/2022 changes.</li> <li>•Presented at OGWA spring convention on 2/11/2022.</li> <li>•Met 3/2022 to discuss July 2022 changes and technical well report reviews with OGWA.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•WCC is communicating with OGWA regarding July 2022 changes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•WCC will continue to place articles in Well Said Newsletter.</li> <li>•Inspectors are communicating in the field with drillers regarding upcoming changes.</li> <li>•April 2022 Well Said will have information in regard to July 2022 changes.</li> </ul>		

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<b>HB 2145 - Exempt Use Fund Transition / Start Card Fee Increase</b>	Transition exempt use map and fee to collection by driller by January 1, 2022. Roll out start card fee increase.	Well Construction	Implement Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Changes for 1/1/2022 implemented. Tasks complete except as provided in next steps.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Rule changes have been developed.</li> <li>•Staff addressing issues as they come up and responding to customers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Continue solicitation for one new continuing education committee member. - Safety.</li> <li>•Hold RAC meeting to discuss changes to OAR 690-190, 690-225, 690-260.</li> <li>•Continue to monitor program for issues due to changeover.</li> </ul>	Rules will be adopted at a later date	<a href="#">Webpage</a> <a href="#">Link</a>
<b>HB 2145 - Implement All other policy changes scheduled for July 2023/2024</b>	All other provisions of HB 2145; conduct rulemaking; Begin work in January 2022 to update rules/forms/etc to implement new law for July 1,2023.	Well Construction	Implement Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•WCC has begun developing forms necessary for July 1, 2023 changes.</li> <li>•Discussions have begun with IS regarding changes to forms and databases that will need to take place.</li> <li>•Communication plan for 2023 changes has been implemented based on example from 1/2022 changes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•WCC meeting weekly with IS on upcoming July changes to develop process and applications needed to successfully implement requirements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Draft charter of work submitted for July 2022 changes.</li> <li>•Preparing for July 2022 changes as we think ahead for July 2023/2024 changes.</li> </ul>		<a href="#">Webpage</a> <a href="#">Link</a>
<b>HB 2145 - Technical Well Log Reviews - IS</b>	Ensure a system is in place for conducting Technical Well Log Reviews July 2022.	Well Construction	Implement Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Communication plan drafted.</li> <li>•Continuing to meet weekly with IS regarding July changes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Ongoing weekly Teams meetings with IS to develop IT systems and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Finalize scope and charter of work</li> <li>•Finalize and implement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Assess IS priorities and capacity for HB 2145 project.</li> <li>Determine minimum IS needs</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Webpage</a> <a href="#">Link</a>



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<b>HB 2145 - Technical Well Log Reviews</b>	Train staff and develop procedures for 100% well log reviews by July 1, 2022	Well Construction	Implement Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•NRS2 Well Program Specialist transitioned to new role.</li> <li>•NW Region inspector hired beginning 3/1/2022.</li> <li>•SC Region well inspector interviews held on 2/15/22.</li> <li>•Presented to OGWA regarding July 1, 2022 changes.</li> <li>•Met with OGWA 3/4/22 to discuss technical well report reviews</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hire new well inspectors</li> <li>•Train for technical well report review work.</li> <li>•See HB 2145 Technical Well Log reviews IS project.</li> <li>•Hired new Well Construction Program Coordinator on 3/1/2022.</li> <li>•New NW Region inspector started on 3/1/2022.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Communication plan being implemented.</li> <li>•Met with OGWA in regard to reviews on 3/4/2022.</li> <li>•Well Said article in April 2022 newsletter.</li> <li>•Presented info at OGWA conference in 2/2022.</li> <li>•Develop deficiency tracking process.</li> <li>•Implement the assignment of wells to each reviewer on a statewide basis.</li> </ul>		<a href="#">Webpage</a> <a href="#">Link</a>
<b>HB 2145 - IS Project - Update Well Logs and Start Card Systems for 2023/2024</b>	Begin work in January 2022 to update well log system and start cards for new info by 2023; electronic submittal by 2024.	Well Construction	Information Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Wcc has provided information to IS on changes necessary to implement bill.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•On Hold</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Finalize scope and charter of work</li> <li>•These tasks will move forward as we wrap up the needed changes for July 1, 2022.</li> </ul>		<a href="#">Webpage</a> <a href="#">Link</a>
<b>HB 2145 - Report to Legislature</b>	Report to the legislature on well log reviews and inspections by January 31, 2023 and 2025.	Well Construction	Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Reporting requirements are being incorporated into discussion w/ IS regarding design of new technical well log review information system.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•On hold</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Formulate project team to work on report</li> <li>•Scope out information for report and data that must be collected</li> </ul>	Estimate project start in Apr-May 2022; First report due January 31, 2023	
<b>Division 215 Rulemaking</b>	Correct issue with rule	Well Construction	Rulemaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Notified drilling community of need for rulemaking</li> <li>•Language for rule drafted consistent with language that was previously removed by mistake in 2016</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•On Hold</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Incorporate with other rulemakings for HB 2145</li> </ul>		<a href="#">Rule</a> <a href="#">Webpage</a>