

# Place-Based Planning Updates January – June 2017

## Program Updates

- Sustainable Northwest and OWRD co-produced a Collaborative Water Planning event that brought together planning groups, potential conveners, other collaboration practitioners, and statewide partners to share lessons learned and best practices.
- The Association of Oregon Counties provided collaboration assistance to conveners. The National Policy Consensus Center provided collaboration training to one planning group.
- Calls/meetings held with conveners and private funders.
- Memos developed to provide clarity on OWRD roles and responsibilities and how to request technical assistance.
- Inter-agency meetings in April, May, and August.
- Convener calls/meetings in March, May, and August.



### Malheur Lake Basin

Conveners: Harney County Court & Watershed Council  
OWRD Grant Award: \$135,000 (partial fund)

- Declaration of Commitment signed by 20 partners.
- Quarterly meetings of the full Collaborative held in January, April, and July.
- Conceptual model of the water system developed.
- Water Availability Working Group convened to gather and analyze water data/information.
- Grant applications submitted to private funders.
- Coordination with other study and planning efforts.

**More information:** Contact Gretchen Bates at 541-589-0915 or [gretchen@hcwatershedcouncil.com](mailto:gretchen@hcwatershedcouncil.com)

**WEB:** [www.hcwatershedcouncil.com/community-based-water-planning](http://www.hcwatershedcouncil.com/community-based-water-planning)

Planning Step 2

### Upper Grande Ronde Sub-Basin

Convener: Union County  
OWRD Grant Award: \$197,000 (full fund)

- Memorandum of Agreement adopted and signed by 18 partners.
- Stakeholder meetings held in January, February, April, June, August.
- Technical advisory group convened to assemble and analyze water data/information.
- Water setting presentation delivered by OWRD.
- Collaboration training delivered by NPCC.
- First field tour coordinated to learn about water needs for farms, cities, and rivers from partners.
- Successful transition to new convener.

**More information:** Contact Scott Hartell at 541-963-1014 or [shartell@union-county.org](mailto:shartell@union-county.org)

**WEB:** <http://union-county.org/planning/place-based-integrated-water-resources-planning/>

Planning Step 2

### Lower John Day Sub-Basin

Convener: Gilliam SWCD & Wheeler SWCD  
Total Grant Award: \$190,000 (full fund)

- Declaration of Cooperation developed and signed by 14 partners.
- Partnership meetings held in February, March, and June.
- Kick-off meeting of technical working group to assemble and analyze water data/information.
- RFP process developed and executed to distribute funding and boost partner capacity/engagement.
- Water setting presentation delivered by OWRD.
- Successful transition to new conveners.

**More information:** Contact Christina Kirwan at 541-384-2672 x108 or [gilliamswcd@gmail.com](mailto:gilliamswcd@gmail.com)

**WEB:** Under development.

Planning Step 2

### Mid-Coast Region

Conveners: City of Newport & OWRD  
Total Grant Award: \$135,000 (partial fund)

- Charter adopted and signed by 36 partners.
- Meetings of the full Partnership held in January, March, May, and August.
- Four study groups assembled to work with technical consultant to assemble and analyze water data/information.
- Water setting presentation delivered by OWRD.
- First field tour coordinated to learn about watershed processes from partners.
- Grant applications submitted to private funders.

**More information:** Contact Timothy Gross at 541-961-5313 or [T.Gross@NewportOregon.gov](mailto:T.Gross@NewportOregon.gov)

**WEB:** [www.midcoastwaterpartners.com](http://www.midcoastwaterpartners.com)

Planning Step 2



# Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Planning



## Helping Oregon communities plan for their current and future water needs

Place-based planning is one of the recommended actions from the 2012 Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS). It provides an opportunity for communities to work collaboratively, in partnership with the state, to understand their water resources challenges and needs, and identify potential solutions to meet those needs. The place-based planning [draft guidelines](#) describe the five steps and key planning principles central to any place-based planning effort.

### Planning Step 1

**Build a collaborative and inclusive process** – Conveners assemble partners representing a balance of interests, including state agencies and work with partners to: create a governance agreement that describes how the partners will collaborate and make decisions using consensus; develop a communication and outreach strategy to ensure an open and inclusive process; and develop a work plan outlining how they will execute Planning Steps 2-5.

### Planning Step 2

**Gather information to understand current water resources and identify knowledge gaps** – The planning group assesses and describes water resources in the basin, looking at water quantity, quality, and ecology. This effort includes collecting and synthesizing existing information, identifying any gaps in knowledge, and developing strategies to fill these gaps.

### Planning Step 3

**Examine current and future water needs/demands for people, the economy, and the environment** – The group identifies and prioritizes current and future instream and out-of-stream water needs/demands using an integrated approach. Groups also examine water challenges and vulnerabilities, such as how climate change may affect water resources and the ability to meet water needs.

### Planning Step 4

**Identify and prioritize strategic, integrated solutions to meet multiple water needs** – The group collaboratively identifies a long-term strategy and near-term recommended actions to address the instream and out-of-stream issues and needs identified in Steps 2-3. Consensus-based strategies and actions are captured in a plan.

### Planning Step 5

**Approve and implement a place-based integrated water resources plan** – The group approves the plan and develops more detailed plans to implement actions. The Water Resources Commission and other agencies will have an opportunity to formally accept the plan, based on whether it is consistent with the IWRS, the guidelines, and state water policy.

## Key Planning Principles

- Locally-initiated and led collaborative effort
- Voluntary, non-regulatory process
- Includes a balanced representation of water interests
- Conducted in partnership with the state
- Addresses instream and out-of-stream needs
- Looks at water quantity, quality and ecosystem needs in an integrated approach
- Creates an open and transparent process that fosters public participation
- Builds on and integrates existing studies and plans
- Does not infringe on existing water rights
- Adheres to IWRS principles and state laws

## Learn More!

Visit the web page: <http://bit.ly/owrdplanning> Email: [placebasedplanning@wrd.state.or.us](mailto:placebasedplanning@wrd.state.or.us)  
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