



INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES STRATEGY

UNDERSTANDING AND MEETING OREGON'S INSTREAM AND OUT-OF-STREAM WATER NEEDS

March 08, 2016

Time to Update the 2012 Integrated Water Resources Strategy

It may be hard to believe, but 2017 marks the five-year anniversary of the IWRS. The Water Resources Department (Department) and its sister agencies are gearing up for a review and update, which is required every five years. As part of this effort, the Department will keep the IWRS goals, objectives and guiding principles intact, given their continued relevance for the people of Oregon.

For the 2017 update, the IWRS Project Team will focus on reporting progress towards implementation, exploring key topic areas that require further attention or resources, and identifying any new recommended actions that are needed. Governor Brown, through Executive Order 15-09, has directed state agencies to address drought, including long-term resiliency planning, in Oregon's 2017 Integrated Water Resources Strategy. The Department will be seeking the public's input on actions taken and lessons learned from Oregon's 2015 drought. A survey will be coming soon.

2016 Policy Advisory Group Named

The Policy Advisory Group is an 18-member citizen group that will advise the Water Resources Commission on the development of recommended actions for the 2017 IWRS Update. The first Policy Advisory Group meeting is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 30, 2016 at the Department's Salem office. Agendas and meeting materials can be found [here](#). Advisory Group members include:

Robert "Will" Collin

Environmental Justice Advocate
Salem, Oregon

Suzanne DeLorenzo

Clackamas River Water District
Clackamas, Oregon

Arlene Dietz

Rice Farms
Eugene, Oregon

Ron Foggin

City Manager
City of Dallas, Oregon

Rebecca Geisen

Portland Water Bureau
Portland, Oregon

TJ Hansell

Hansell Farms
Hermiston, Oregon

Valerie Kelley

(retired hydrologist)
Portland, Oregon

Gayle Killam

River Network
Portland, Oregon

Craig Lacy

(retired fly-fishing outfitter)
Bend, Oregon

Winnie Lam

Google Server Farm
The Dalles, Oregon

Hiram Li

(retired biologist)
Corvallis, Oregon

Tracey Liskey

Liskey Farms
Klamath Falls, Oregon

Peggy Lynch

League of Women Voters of Oregon
Corvallis, Oregon

Curtis Martin

Oregon Cattlemen's Association
North Powder, Oregon

Craig Pope

Polk County Commissioner
Dallas, Oregon

Brent Stevenson

Santiam Water Control District
Stayton, Oregon

Stan van de Wetering

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
Siletz, Oregon

Mary Wahl

Wahl Ranch
Langlois, Oregon

What Will Water Demands Look Like in 2050?

To better identify what is ahead in the state's water future, the Department updated its Statewide Long-Term Water Demand Forecast in 2015. The Water Demand Forecast supports IWRS Recommended Action 2A (*Update Long-Term Water Demand Forecasts*) and serves as a conversation starter, describing potential long-term water needs and trends in Oregon. The 2015 study, scenarios, and assumptions include a projected increase in both population and a longer, warmer growing season. If a hotter-drier scenario does develop, Oregon could be faced with a need for an additional 1.3 million acre-feet of water annually, or nearly 424 billion gallons per year.

Executive Summary (PDF):

http://www.oregon.gov/owrd/LAW/docs/IWRS/OWRD_ExecutiveSummary_V16_web.pdf

Demand Forecast Report (PDF):

http://www.oregon.gov/owrd/LAW/docs/IWRS/OWRD_2015_Statewide_LongTerm_Water_Demand_Forecast.pdf

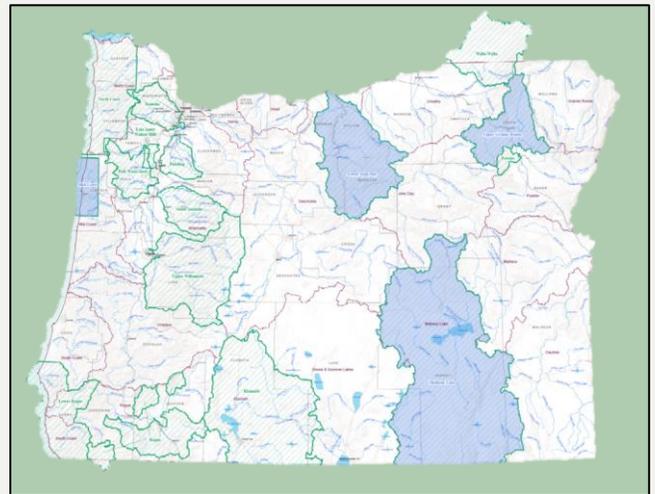
Four Pilots Selected for Place-Based Planning

On February 25, 2016, the Water Resources Commission awarded funding for piloting place-based integrated water resources planning in four locations across the state. This supports IWRS Recommended Actions 9A and 9B. The pilot planning areas, as shown on the map, include:

- The Mid Coast area
- The Malheur Lake Basin
- The Upper Grande Ronde Basin
- The Lower John Day Basin

The Department has hired two planning coordinators to support these communities to pilot place-based integrated water resources planning. For more information, visit this website:

http://www.oregon.gov/owrd/Pages/Place_Based_Planning.aspx

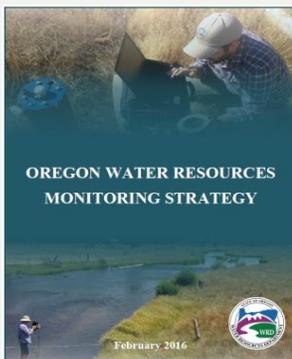


Oregon Designates Two New Scenic Waterways

In 2014, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department found sections of the Molalla and Chetco Rivers eligible and suitable for inclusion in the State's Scenic Waterway Program. Following a year-long process, in November 2015 the Parks Commission and the Water Resources Commission recommended the designation of these two rivers to the Governor. Governor Brown approved the designations in January 2016. This supports IWRS Recommended Action 10A (*Develop Additional Instream Protections*). For more information, visit:

<http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/NATRES/scenicwaterways/Pages/index.aspx>

Monitoring Strategy Released



The Department has released a *2016 Water Resources Monitoring Strategy*, which supports IWRS Recommended Actions 1B and 1C. The Monitoring Strategy identifies the following monitoring priorities: climate change, extreme events, groundwater protection, water management, instream needs, water supply, and partnering with other agencies.

The Monitoring Strategy will help the state determine where to place new surface water and groundwater monitoring sites to meet these priorities. A full copy of the document is available on-line: <http://www.oregon.gov/owrd/LAW/docs/IWRS/MonitoringStrategy.pdf>