

Place-Based Water Planning Updates January – June 2020

Program and Place-Based Updates

- [Presentations to the House Committee on Water](#) on building social capital and collaborative capacity in the context of water planning.
- Learning Partnership convened in June via Zoom to share updates and identify shared interests for future learning.
- Planning Assessment initiated and scope [presented to the Water Resources Commission](#) in June.
- [Gaps and needs handout](#) assembled to communicate what the planning groups need to succeed.
- OWRD and places participated in an evaluation of CIRC partnership and assistance.



Harney Basin

Conveners: Harney County Court & Watershed Council
 OWRD Grant: \$300,000 Other Funding (to-date): \$331,234

Planning Steps 2/3/4

- Meetings of the Collaborative held in January, February, March, April, May, and June.
- Significant progress made discussing solutions.
- Funding received by The Nature Conservancy from the Bureau of Reclamation and OWRD to explore the feasibility of a groundwater market.
- Initial feasibility assessment for securing quality water for rural domestic use conducted.
- Communication firm hired to help with outreach to the broader community, including irrigators.

More information: Contact Holly Mondo at 805-801-6013 || holly@hcwatershedcouncil.com

WEB: www.hcwatershedcouncil.com/community-based-water-planning

Upper Grande Ronde Sub-Basin

Convener: Union County
 OWRD Grant: \$242,000 Other Funding (to-date): \$110,000

Planning Step 4

- Stakeholder meetings held in January, February, April, May, June.
- Partnership Technical Assistance Capacity Grant secured from OWEB.
- Consensus achieved on goals and objectives to include in Step 4 report.
- Comments on draft Step 4 report solicited from partners.

More information: Contact Scott Hartell at 541-963-1014 || shartell@union-county.org

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

Lower John Day Sub-Basin

Convener: Gilliam SWCD & Wheeler SWCD
 OWRD Grant: \$239,000 Other Funding (to-date): \$10,000

Planning Step 4

- Meetings held in January, February, March, April, May, June, and July.
- Step 3 [Integrated Water Resource Needs and Vulnerabilities Report](#) finalized.
- Step 4 process to refine critical solutions and develop strategies and solutions underway!

More information: Contact Herb Winters at 541-384-2672 x110 || gilliamswcd@gmail.com

WEB: <https://www.lowerjohndaypbp.com/>

Mid-Coast Region

Conveners: Seal Rock Water District, OWRD, Lincoln County
 OWRD Grant: \$300,000 Other Funding (to-date): \$425,000

Planning Step 3

- Partnership meeting, hosted by the City of Toledo, held in January.
- Instream Summit held in February to develop and refine instream/ecology issue statements, consensus achieved.
- Self-supplied and municipal/special district work groups achieved consensus on issue statements.
- Proposal to bring Lincoln County on as a co-convener approved by consensus of the Partnership.
- Facilitator and plan writing team secured.

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Helping Oregonians plan for their current and future instream and out-of-stream water needs

Place-based integrated water resources planning is one of the recommended actions from the 2012 and 2017 [Integrated Water Resources Strategy \(IWRS\)](#). It provides an opportunity for places to work collaboratively, in partnership with the state, to understand their water resources challenges and needs, and identify strategies and actions to meet those needs. The [DRAFT planning guidelines](#) describe the five steps and key planning principles central to any place-based integrated water resources 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 that fosters public participation; and develop a work plan outlining how the group will execute Planning Steps 2-5.

Planning Step 2

Gather information to develop a shared understanding of current water resources and identify gaps – The planning group assesses and describes water resources in the planning area, 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 and vulnerabilities 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 instream and out-of-stream 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 strategies to implement actions. The Water Resources Commission and other agencies will have an opportunity to formally recognize 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
- Balances current and future instream and out-of-stream needs
- Looks at water quantity, quality and ecosystem needs in an integrated approach
- Utilizes 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: <https://go.usa.gov/xV5f4> Email: wrd_dl_placebasedplanning@oregon.gov
 Contact Planning Coordinators [Harmony Burrignt](#) (503-986-0913) or [Steven Parrett](#) (503-986-0914)